



혁명위 성인 백두산
김정일
2011

KIM JONG IL THE GREAT MAN

KIM JONG IL THE GREAT MAN

Foreign Languages Publishing House

Pyongyang, Korea

Juche 101(2012)

Foreword

The past 20th century and the current 21st century witnessed a great man who left undying traces for his land and people, for the time and history, and who still lives in the hearts of the Korean people. He is **Kim Jong Il** who was the outstanding leader of the Korean people, for whom the word “great” is not enough to describe his extraordinary qualities and personality and to record the immortal exploits in his lifetime.

On February 16, Juche 31(1942) in the days of the war against Japan, **Kim Jong Il** was born in Mt. Paektu, the ancestral mountain of Korea, as the sun promising Koreans a bright future. Even the white snow of February congratulated him on his birth.

At this time, when they are greeting his 70th birthday, no words can express the grief of the Korean people who had to meet the day without him. Their longing for him can be described to be as high as heaven, for the leader whom they saw smiling as brightly as the sun and who passed away a few months ago all of a sudden.

It is not just because he was their leader. Actually, he was respected by the progressive people all over the world as the sun of the 21st century.

Possessed of the personality and qualities appropriate to a great man, he led the Korean revolution with profound ideas and theories, and with exceptional leadership. He was a distinguished ideologist, unique theoretician, veteran

statesman, and outstanding commander of Songun. His lifetime was a course of revolutionary struggle devoted to his country and people.

His ideas and theories were the beacon that guided the Korean people along a correct way, his leadership was the driving force behind the Korean revolution, and the banner of Songun he held high was an invincible sword. Thanks to his strenuous efforts, the world peace and justice were defended, and the Korean people could become a happy and proud nation. It is not surprising that the Korean people respected and praised him as the symbol of all victory and glory.

In effect, his 70-year-long career is quite noble and unsurpassed. As his name means, he lived and will live as the sun in every sense of the word.

Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| 1. Extraordinary Personality | 7 |
| 1) Manly personality | 7 |
| Audacity | 7 |
| Attack-oriented temperament | 11 |
| 2) Rich emotions | 13 |
| Joy and sorrow | 13 |
| Burning passion | 17 |
| 3) Rare talents | 20 |
| Skills and talents of wide range | 20 |
| Gifted talents | 23 |
| 4) Rare habits | 26 |
| Field style | 26 |
| Commoner's habit | 28 |
| 5) Noble hobbies | 31 |
| Going among the people | 31 |
| Favourite cogitation | 34 |
| His favourite - reading and music | 37 |
| 2. Guide of the Times | 40 |
| 1) Foremost mission of a leader | 40 |

| | |
|---|-----------|
| A leader should be a famous philosopher | 40 |
| Absolute espousal, 100 per cent succession..... | 43 |
| 2) The Juche idea shines as guiding ideology of the times..... | 47 |
| Evaluation of 100-year history of working-class ideas | 47 |
| Library of the Juche idea | 50 |
| The Juche idea as eternal banner of the times..... | 54 |
| 3) Unfurled banner of Songun idea..... | 57 |
| The establishment of arms philosophy | 57 |
| Original strategy of the Songun revolution..... | 61 |
| 4) Road of liberation struggle illuminated for humanity..... | 67 |
| “Socialism Is A Science”..... | 67 |
| Adhere to Juche character and national identity | 72 |
| 3. Renowned Veteran Statesman in the Present Times | 77 |
| 1) Half-a-century-long political career | 77 |
| 2) Strict adherence to the independent stand..... | 80 |
| Independent politics - lifeline of modern politics | 80 |
| “Let us live our own way!” | 84 |
| Let the world follow us..... | 87 |
| 3) A new history of benevolent politics | 90 |
| Principle of politics of love and trust..... | 90 |
| Fatherly leader for the people | 93 |

| | |
|--|------------|
| Turning the Party and state into servants of people | 98 |
| 4) A miraculous Songun politics of Kim Jong Il..... | 102 |
| At the crossroads of history | 102 |
| Long journey of Songun | 105 |
| The collapsed “Theory of Collapse” | 109 |
| 5) Outstanding art of leading the masses | 113 |
| Mental exertions are stronger than nuclear weapons | 113 |
| Art of making and spreading fire | 118 |
| Endless guidance in the thick of reality | 123 |
| 4. Legendary General..... | 128 |
| 1) Personalities of the outstanding general | 128 |
| Man strong in ideology..... | 128 |
| Commander of great resource..... | 133 |
| Benevolent general | 138 |
| 2) Building up the strong military strength | 142 |
| Unique outlook on military strength | 142 |
| Revolutionary armed forces of Mt Paektu | 146 |
| Independent defence industry | 151 |
| A porcupine-like country..... | 154 |
| 3) Fierce military confrontation..... | 159 |
| Merciless punishment to the provokers | 159 |
| Frustrated nuclear fuss by the US | 162 |

| | |
|--|------------|
| 5. Peerless Patriot | 166 |
| 1) Lofty idea of love for the country and people | 166 |
| Country and nation enshrined deep in heart..... | 166 |
| My country and nation are best..... | 169 |
| 2) For the building of a thriving country..... | 173 |
| Plan for the building of a prosperous and powerful country | 173 |
| Kindling the flame of the drive to break through the cutting edge | 177 |
| National dignity exalted with faith and will..... | 180 |
| 3) Regarding national reunification as his lifelong cause..... | 184 |
| Noble will for reunification | 184 |
| Opening an era of reunification by our nation itself..... | 188 |
| 4) Lifetime recorded with patriotic devotion | 195 |
| Let us become roots for the country | 195 |
| For the good of his country and people..... | 197 |
| Ever-increasing devotion..... | 201 |
| Kim Jong Il's History will Go by Forever | 204 |

1. Extraordinary Personality

What **Kim Jong Il** would look like as a person and what made him a great man highly praised by the world is one of global interest and curiosity.

People say he is an ideal man in every way and model of a true human being.

A great man is also a human being. Therefore a good knowledge of personality of a man is a prerequisite for full grasping his personality as a great man. This will be a good explanation for the current global interests and curiosity about the personality of **Kim Jong Il** as a great man.

1) Manly personality

Audacity

Kim Jong Il was of manly nature. Unwavering conviction, steady confidence, steel-like courage and fighting will constitute his temperament and personality.

President **Kim Il Sung** in his lifetime used to praise **Kim Jong Il** for his personality and temperament, comparing them to Mt. Paektu.

President **Kim Il Sung** said, “**The manly personality of Comrade Kim Jong Il was shaped in his days on Mt. Paektu. His ideas, characteristics, hobbies and habits have amazingly taken after the mountain. The mettle and character of Mt. Paektu are all over his body and spirit. Comrade Kim Jong Il is indeed a man of the type of Mt. Paektu.**”

During the train journey to the Far East of Russia in August Juche 91(2002) one of his suite said to **Kim Jong Il**, that the latter’s temperament was just like that of Mt. Paektu.

He admitted with a smile that he liked Mt. Paektu and that the mountain’s character was just his temperament. And he went on to say that if a son of guerrilla did not live in the way of guerrilla, in the spirit of Mt. Paektu, it meant that he had

been transformed into another person.

A man of the type of Mt. Paektu—this was the total evaluation made by the Korean people of the characteristics and temperament of **Kim Jong Il**. They have a better knowledge of the historic meaning and character of the mountain.

Mt. Paektu is an ancestral, and sacred, mountain of revolution, which carries the soul of the Korean nation and the roots of the Korean revolution.

Mt Paektu towering high in the northern tip of Korea stretches far to its southern tip, demonstrating grandeur and majesty. Its wonders of immense variety are all the more exquisite. The lightning flashing throughout the sky and the roaring thunder shaking the world are awesome and thrilling. And the sudden appearance of the sun brightening the surroundings like a daylight with its warmth seemingly embracing the universe and the heavy biting wind freezing the earth as if to suspend the motion of nature constitute a rare pageant. In particular, the sight of Mt. Paektu in winter with thick forests of larch and rocks and everything capped with snow is really spectacular.

Mt. Paektu is the place where **Kim Jong Il** was born and brought up. Born as a son of the nation and country, he developed his personality and temperament after those of Mt. Paektu while treasuring its stately appearance.

Kim Jong Il used to launch projects in a big way and give quick finish to them once started. *Lightning Operation and Annihilation Operation* are the terms he applied to the socio-political field. *At a Go* and other terms representing the fighting spirit and mode of the present times fully reflect his characteristics and personality.

His voice always sounded resonant, powerful and buoyant, and his words were lively for his jokes, humors and witty remarks. His congratulatory remark at the military parade held in celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Korean People's Army on April 25, Juche 81(1992), **“Glory to the officers and men of heroic Korean People's Army!”** still remain resounding in the ears of the world people.

This happened during his visit to Russia. The gifts prepared by both sides happened to be thematically tiger about which they felt embarrassed. At that time **Kim Jong Il** said jokingly that his “scouts” had done a super job of proposing

exchange of gifts themed with tiger and that he had already known the Russian intention to present that kind of gift, thus turning the awkward situation into laughter.

At the party for the south Korean President Kim Dae Jung held in Pyongyang, when the seat of the first lady of south Korea arranged separate from her husband's, **Kim Jong Il** said, “We are meeting to address the issue of separated families, and yet we are making another separated family here,” and invited her to sit next to him. When the cameramen requested him to pose lifting hands with Kim Dae Jung, he made everybody around laugh by saying, “You want me to play an actor? How much would you pay for my performance?”

It is well known that delegates of south Korean media organs who met **Kim Jong Il** during their visit to Pyongyang got fascinated by him.

At a reception one of them asked, “Mr. Chairman, when do you think the country will be reunified?”

Kim Jong Il answered that it depended on how the north and south were determined, and that if they were fully determined and pooled their efforts, reunification might be achieved at the moment.

Applauding exploded; it was evident that the delegates from the south were struck with admiration.

They were captivated not only by his meaningful remark but also by perspicuous reply off hand.

Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, who poured showers of questions on him, was so mesmerized by his concise and clear-cut answers that she could not hide her feeling of fascination during the whole course of conversation.

During his visit to the Far East of Russia, the entourage asked **Kim Jong Il** to arrange a relaxed schedule with a hope to reduce his burden in the hottest days of summer. It is conventional for heads of state on a foreign tour to plan a schedule in proper combination of diplomacy and relaxation.

Kim Jong Il replied that a visit to a foreign country or the hot summer heat could be no excuse for a loose schedule and that even if the schedule was arranged

in that way he could not help himself being driven busy. No wonder the Korean people and the numerous people around the world described him as a great man of the type of Mt. Paektu, who embodied the character and spirit of the mountain.

Attack-oriented temperament

The solid basis for the manly personality of **Kim Jong Il** was his attack-oriented temperament.

All his activities were characterized by attack-attack in the confrontation with the enemy, in the creation and construction, in sports, in diplomacy and so on.

When an official asked him if he could define the latter's temperament as being attack-oriented, he replied, **“If you have to do so, I don't mind that definition. I prefer attack to defence.”**

One of the officials once tried to define the special features of his conducting sports, but in vain. He knew that in his childhood the leader had liked horse riding but he learned that the range of his favourite sports was extremely wide. What particularly impressed him was that he gave priority to attack and speed in any sport.

The peerless attack-oriented spirit and temperament of **Kim Jong Il** was demonstrated most clearly in the confrontation with the allied imperialist forces to defend socialism of the Korean style.

The DPRK has been in confrontation with the US imperialists to defend socialism for decades.

Kim Jong Il always employed the tactics of attack for more than half a century with courage and confidence to defeat any challenge by responding to the enemy's knife with a sword and to the enemy's rifle with a cannon.

He displayed his reputation as another courageous and confident general of Mt. Paektu at the time of the US armed spy ship Pueblo Incident and espionage plane EC-121 Incident in the 1960s.

His attack-oriented spirit proved to be effective at every stage of socialist construction in the DPRK. It was his intention that the tactics of attack should be employed not only in the confrontation with the enemy but also in the revolution and construction to break through adversities and bring about a leap forward.

In particular, since mid-1990s, the toughest period for the Korean revolution

after the passing of President **Kim Il Sung**, he led army and people to build a springboard for a powerful and prosperous country, and in the new century he opened up a bright prospect for the building of a thriving nation by means of Huichon Speed, a new Chollima speed created in the KPA.

His extraordinary attack-oriented temperament was not simply based on his inborn personality.

It was based on his high sense of responsibility for the destiny of the Korean nation and people and his noble sense of commitment to make his country tower over the world as a great country and the Korean people into the happiest and most dignified people.

Once he said that President **Kim Il Sung** had fought and won by employing the tactics of attack all his life, and the will and strategy of attack were what he had learned from him.

2) Rich emotions

Joy and sorrow

Kim Jong Il was possessed of rich emotions.

The most important aspect of his emotions was joy and sorrow.

There was once a conversation between **Kim Jong Il** and an official. The official asked, “When is it that you feel happiest?”

“**It is when the President has a smile of joy and contention on his face. His joy is my greatest pride, happiness and pleasure,**” was **Kim Jong Il**’s reply.

Though simple, it was a very meaningful reply.

Kim Jong Il devoted his all to the struggle to bring the greatest pleasure to **Kim Il Sung** and felt his greatest joy from it.

Whenever amazing miracles were made in the building of a powerful and prosperous nation after **Kim Il Sung** had died, he pictured the President who must have felt extremely satisfied with the auspicious events.

When he saw cutting-edge CNC machines standing in rows, the piles of Juche fertilizer ready for consignment at the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex, and the reclaimed Taegyedo tideland, he said the President would have been greatly pleased as his desires had come true. Holding a handful of snow-white vinalon cotton, he pictured the President and said he was as happy as never and he would go to the then Kumsusan Memorial Palace (Kumsusan Palace of the Sun at present) right away to show the President the new vinalon cotton produced by our working class.

In May Juche 69(1980) numerous heads of state and government attended the funeral of the late Yugoslavian president Josip Tito, President **Kim Il Sung** was also there.

The Yugoslavian authorities arranged the seats in two rows for the heads of state

and offered **Kim Il Sung** the central seat in the first row, put his wreath at the centre of the wreaths placed before the coffin, and authorized him to write on the first page of condolence record. After the funeral ceremony, it was the DPRK that President the President of the Presidium of Yugoslavia met first. And numerous heads of state came to him to pay respect.

Kim Jong Il learned this on the President's return home, and said that he was very pleased at that and President **Kim Il Sung** deserved highest position and greatest respect in the world for his profound ideas and theories, efficient leadership, and noble virtues.

The time when Korean people felt happy in their life was another happy moment for **Kim Jong Il**.

One December day in Juche 87(1998) **Kim Jong Il** said to officials, **"My joy is always in the happiness of people. I spare nothing if it is for people's well-being. When I hear at work skipping sleep and meals that one part of our people's living has improved, I feel encouraged and relieved of the tiredness in a flash."**

During his visit to the elaborated dwelling houses in Jangphyong Cooperative Farm, Janggang County in January Juche 97(2008), he expressed his satisfaction with the farmers' happy life and said, **"I am most happy to hear that our people are well-off and happy."**

This happened one day of December Juche 90(2001), when chicken farms were built one after another and producing chicken and eggs to full capacity in all parts of the country after having got over the tough adversities of the "Arduous March" and forced march of the mid-1990s.

When **Kim Jong Il** was looking around a machine plant, a worker aged about 20 suddenly stopped his machine and came to him to express his gratitude for the supply of chicken and eggs.

That day he was particularly pleased and said to officials, **"I want no more than people's happiness. In their happiness and delight lies mine. These days I feel highly spirited far from feeling tired though I work through nights."**

From the simple greeting of gratitude by a young worker, he had read the ever-growing people's happiness.

He often asked two questions; one was **“Do people like it?”** when he was briefed on the people's living and the other was **“What would people say?”** when he was informed of the inexpedience to the people.

He was more pleased with the report that the people were enjoying real benefits than with the report that something had been built or made.

In April Juche 90(2001) he visited a fish farm. The manager of the farm told him that they had supplied people with rainbow trout on the occasion of April 15, the birthday of President **Kim Il Sung**.

Kim Jong Il said repeatedly, **“The people ate rainbow trout!”** and said that they had done a superb job and it was the best news for him. He had not been so much pleased with the large expansion of the fish farm and the farm's determination to raise a variety of fish.

During his inspection of the newly built Mansudae Street in October Juche 98(2009), he expressed his satisfaction, saying that the people who were supposed to move into these flats would be very happy. And on hearing that some of them had already come to have a look round their apartments before moving, shedding tears of gratitude to the Party's benevolence, he agreed, saying that it was very likely. And he said, **“When people living in these flats feel happy, then I will rate them as the best of the best.”** In his lifetime he said that nothing would be left of his life except the word *people*. To the very people he devoted his all to the very last moment of his life.

Kim Jong Il, the great man, also experienced sorrow.

He felt most sorrowful over the loss of his revolutionary comrades and over the people's unexpected misfortune.

About 30 years ago Kim Il, one of the anti-Japanese veterans, passed away.

At the funeral he was so overwhelmed with the heart-breaking grief over the loss of the veteran that he wiped away the trickling tears with his handkerchief.

When the funeral was over, the condolers and the family of the deceased began

going down the hill.

However, he remained standing alone beside the new grave. It was so cold that the officials repeatedly asked him to leave, but he replied with a sorrowful voice, **“Please let me alone,”** and stayed there long.

Tears continued to flow from his eyes as he left the grave and walked down the hill. The following day he continuously looked back on the deceased veteran listening to the dirge from a cassette-player deeply lost in sorrow of loss.

He felt so sorrowful over the great casualty caused by an unexpected explosion in Ryongchon County in April Juche 93(2004) that he could not have even a moment's sleep and took every relief measure in the damaged area.

There were uncountable examples of this kind in his life.

That was why the Korean people held and followed him not only as their leader of revolution but also as their benevolent father and as a great man.

Burning passion

From the time immemorial it has been said that no genius or great man was without passion. The extraordinary passion is the source of becoming a celebrity or a great man.

The story about the birth of the revolutionary operas of *The Sea of Blood* style which evoked admiration from the DPRK, and the world will provide a glimpse of **Kim Jong Il's** burning passion.

In the 1970s a miracle of producing five revolutionary operas of *The Sea of Blood* style in just over 2 years under the guidance of **Kim Jong Il** was wrought in the DPRK. The secret to the miracle lay in the wisdom and passion of **Kim Jong Il**.

The world history of opera creation showed that even the countries developed in art and literature with a long tradition in opera had spent years or even 30 years on creating just one opera.

During the days of producing revolutionary operas **Kim Jong Il** waged the campaign to create them with the artists on the spot, sometimes becoming a creator and other times a director. Whenever his eyes became bloodshot with no sleep for perfecting libretto and guiding the representation, he relieved them with cold water. When his eyes still remained bloodshot, he wore sunglasses to conceal the eyes and continued his work.

Illustrative for his dedication and passion for the perfection of operas was his listening to over 15 000 pieces of songs to sort out and give a finishing touch on 47 pieces for *The Sea of Blood* out of over 2 400 and 38 for the *A Flower Girl* out of more than 2 700.

At that time he had to assist President **Kim Il Sung** in dealing with the Party, military and other state affairs. Yet he personally came to the spot of creating operas to give guidance.

Here is another anecdote.

One day in July Juche 60(1971) **Kim Jong Il** came to Pyongyang Grand Theatre to supervise the creation of the revolutionary opera *The Sea of Blood*.

While guiding the team in practical training, he brought everything, from the composition of the work to role-play of individual actors and actresses, to perfection. He spent considerable amount of time on it.

He asked for suspension of the training for their health and told them to go home and have a rest.

Later they learned that he had come to the theatre to give guidance without having supper.

Looking around the team filled with guilty conscience, he said in a usual tone that skipping a meal and missing a night's sleep could happen while making revolution.

This is simply one of the anecdotes that show his world of passion.

Once he worked through the night and, with no intention to rest, was about to leave for another place waiting for his guidance. An official tried to dissuade him, saying, "Please have some sleep before you leave. Passion has its limit."

Kim Jong Il replied, "**I can't rest from work. Passion is like a lantern of mind which pushes revolutionaries to restless struggle. Passion is inexhaustible as if it were a ceaseless spring,**" and got into the car.

But for this great passion, there would not have been his constant on-site guidance march during the days of the "Arduous March" and forced march in the mid-1990s, the most trying period in the DPRK's history.

At that time a lumberjack in Jagang Province cleared the mud off the leader's car with his sleeves and urged officials in a tearful voice to dissuade him from going along such a rough road.

On hearing this from an official that night, **Kim Jong Il** said that no people in the world would be as excellent as our people and again continued his on-site guidance trip.

This is how he lived his whole life.

Therefore whoever met him even once could not help admiring his ardent

emotional world and burning passion.

The south Korean President Kim Dae Jung met **Kim Jong Il** in Pyongyang for the historic North-South summit talks. After the signing of the North-South Joint Declaration was over, he came back to the guest house and expressed his impression to his entourage:

Chairman **Kim Jong Il** of the National Defence Commission is so great and humane that I feel like working with him; he is great now and will be even greater with more promising prospect; having met such a passionate and vigorous man, I feel confident of the prospect of the north and the bright future of our nation as well.

On the other hand, the broad sections of the south Korean people and the world who watched the whole progress of the Pyongyang summit talks live on TV highly described his characteristics as “open as ocean” and “passionate and vigorous.”

3) Rare talents

Skills and talents of wide range

Kim Jong Il was a man of unusual talent.

The long history of great men has hardly recorded an ideally great person versatile with wide variety of skills and talents.

Kim Jong Il was well versed in social sciences like philosophy, economics and politics, very keen on architecture, education, art, literature and media, and efficient at diplomacy. In particular he was very unusual in philosophical thinking and wisdom.

On the Juche Idea, The Juche Philosophy is an Original Revolutionary Philosophy, On Some Problems in the Education in the Juche Idea, Socialism is a Science, Abuse of Socialism are Intolerable, The Historical Lesson in Building Socialism and tire General Line of Our Party, On the Fundamentals of Revolutionary Party Building, Giving Priority to Ideological Work is Essential for Accomplishing Socialism, On Preserving Juche Character and National Character of the Revolution and Construction and others are the famous works instilled with his extraordinary philosophical wisdom. The world progressive people who had read these works highly praised him, saying he was a “great philosopher” and a “genius of ideology and theory”.

During his visit to Pyongyang in Juche 83(1994) the editor-in-chief of Sinhan Minbo in the US wrote, “I had a chance to visit the library of **Kim Jong Il**’s works at the Grand Peoples’ Study House, and I was amazed to see the display of a vast quantity of his autographic essays, presentations, lectures and talks about not only the press but also the overall state affairs, overall academic disciplines, art and literature. I was confident that he was the greatest genius of all.”

His leadership ability and military talents were also extraordinary.

His ability to organize, push, command and control - his leadership ability - was

mysteriously superb; a literary man defined his leadership as “art of leadership of **Kim Jong Il** style.”

He united the entire army and all the people of the DPRK single-heartedly and made efforts to realize the ambitious objective of building a powerful and prosperous nation by overcoming challenges of the grim trials of the “Arduous March” in the mid-1990s; this was a clear demonstration of his leadership ability.

He was so excellent at military affairs that famous foreign military experts with the personal record of professional servicemen described him as an “ingenious military talent” and “brilliant commander with all talents.” All the competent military commanders and experts who once met him marveled at his extraordinary military resourcefulness and talents.

His most outstanding talent was in art and literature.

His eminent aesthetic sense of perceiving objects and phenomena in an artistic way, his superb musical sense and his excellent skill in playing the piano, the basis of music, and other instruments were his inborn talents. He composed masterpieces of high artistic value such as songs *The Embrace of Motherland* in Juche 41(1952) and *My Mother* in Juche 48(1959), and such poems as *Korea, I will add glory to Thee* in Juche 49(1960) and *The Most Beautiful Country* in Juche 51(1962), through which his talents in art and literature were acknowledged unanimously by the Korean writers, musicians and artists.

The revolution in art and literature in the DPRK praised as Renaissance in the 20th century, the promotion of orchestra and chorus onto a new phase, the emergence of such art organizations as Unhasu Orchestra and Samjiyon Band of high standard and the creation of peculiar concert style of combining music, songs, narrative and background were all inconceivable without his extraordinary artistic talents and leadership.

His classical works *On the Art of the Cinema*, *On Juche Literature*, *On the Art of Music*, *On the Art of Opera*, *On the Art of Drama*, *On Fine Arts*, *On Architecture* and others were outcome of his talents in art and literature.

The scientific talent of **Kim Jong Il** was also superb.

His approach to complicated scientific and technological issues was at the cutting-edge level, and he had a full command of devices and facilities of modern technology including computer. The foreign experts in science and technology who had met him were greatly impressed by his wide range of knowledge in science and technology. The CNC technology reached the world standard in a few years in the DPRK. thanks to his guidance.

In addition, he had great erudition in sports, architecture, education, media and diplomacy. His efficient diplomacy was displayed to the full in his several visits to China and Russia, the north-south summits and other meetings with numerous foreign personalities, thus acknowledged by the world.

There are numerous illustrative examples one of which is below. Part of report by Albright, US State Secretary, on her meeting with **Kim Jong Il** in October Juche 89(2000) reads: **Kim Jong Il** is completely different from the type we have so far imagined. He is logical with well-regulated theory, accurate in analysis and assessment of the entangled present international issues based on his full grasp of them. He is broad-minded, magnanimous, and clear-cut in handling all affairs. It is entertaining to have talks with **Kim Jong Il**, for he listens to his dialogue partner to the last in a prudent manner and with great attention, and shows himself to be magnanimous, it is, accordingly, inevitable to be drawn deep into his theories and assertions during negotiations. All in all, I could not but admit that **Kim Jong Il** is a leader in the political, economic, cultural, military, diplomatic and all other wide-ranging fields; he is clear in theory definite in confidence, broad-minded, meticulous and many-sided.

It is needless to say that the zenith of prosperity achieved in the DPRK in all domains of building a socialist thriving nation including ideology, politics, military, the economy, science, art, literature, sports, etc was the precious fruit of his diverse talents and resourcefulness.

Gifted talents

Many people in the world as well as in Korea called **Kim Jong Il** a genius. It is attributed to his natural superb brain and retentive power. It is said that superb brain means retentive faculty. A person with superb brain is the one with an extraordinary capacity of memory to store vividly in his memory bank more than others for a long time and later retrieve them as original as well as the capacity to accurately analyze and judge and wisdom of seeing through the world.

Once President **Kim Il Sung** asked officials about the number of the US troops in the annual Team Spirit joint military exercise staged by the US and south Korean forces. Nobody could give reply, but **Kim Jong Il** briefed him on its exact chronological figures, thus arousing admiration from everybody there.

On the basis of his extraordinary memory he corrected the mistakes about the location of the relics, the size of their scale and figures ascertained by the former officials racking their brain who had served in the Supreme Headquarters during the Fatherland Liberation War (or the Korean War from June 25, Juche 39(1950) to July 27, Juche 42(1953). During the war, he had stayed at the Supreme Headquarters as a teenager.

His ingenious talents were displayed to the full in various fields, including art, architecture and the military affair.

The famous anecdote about his notice of a gap of a semi-tone during performance was during his guidance to the formation of a full orchestra in the 1970s in the DPRK. The fact that he detected the exact reason of variation in electric frequency for the sound of a musical instrument in the afternoon different from that in the morning, an account that he sensed a subtle difference of tone caused by a xylophonist while running sticks through all keys, and a story that he evoked admiration from musical experts by detecting a semi-tone in the backing melody for a part of *If Our Motherly Party Wants* sung by a singer to the tune of the karaoke one day in Juche 81(1992), are just a few examples of numerous

anecdotes which showed his superb musical talent.

This happened when an art troupe was creating a musical work to produce a mixed orchestra of the Korean style.

The players were anxious about the momentary disharmony at some points between the traditional and Western musical instruments despite their great efforts. They could not understand why. Was it because of the incompatibility between the traditional and Western instruments or because of misarrangement of instruments in orchestration?

One day **Kim Jong Il** came to the theatre. While listening to the orchestra under drill, he said at one point, **“Why do the players of the violin and small haegum bow differently? That’s the reason for incongruity in ensemble.”**

The creators and players exclaimed. The very reason they had been toiling to detect in vain was that the players of the small haegum were bowing a bit shorter than the players of the violin.

As taught by him, the small haegum players bowed a bit longer, leading to perfect combination of traditional and Western instruments and, in turn, a wonderful never-heard-of timbre, which was nothing short of mild, melodious and graceful.

Kim Jong Il was also gifted with foresight.

He used to predict the reverse current of the world politics due to an abrupt shocking event at one night.

This happened in Juche 68(1979) when Park Chung Hee was in power in south Korea.

One day on the basis of his close observation of the situation developing in south Korea, he concluded that Park Chung Hee’s “Yushin dictatorship” might soon meet its Waterloo, and that Americans themselves might eliminate him.

Just six days later, the United States removed Park Chung Hee in an intriguing way on October 26.

During the Arab-Israeli War of Juche 62(1973) he said that Egypt, though initially looking overwhelming, would soon retreat; he judged that Sihanouk,

though expelled, would come back to power in ten years; he predicted that though the US imperialists were devastating Vietnam with modern weaponry in the Vietnam War, they would be soon driven out.

One day in the late 1980s, when many people thought that the Soviet Union had been stuck in nightmare due to “fickleness” of Gorbachev, **Kim Jong Il** said that if the Soviet Union continued to follow this road, something would happen in a few years. It seems to me, he continued, the flag of socialism might be hauled down in that country and followed by a gust of capitalist wind sweeping across it, and the inter-ethnic issues in the multiethnic country would become complicated.

After that the situation developed just as he had predicted. The following happened when **Kim Jong Il** was studying at the kindergarten.

During a lesson he learned that one plus one makes two. **Kim Jong Il** rose to say there were cases when one and one made one. He explained that when his clod was added to his sister’s, it made one and that when watering a flower, he saw that one drop of water on a flower petal joined another drop to make one. He added the consequent one was a bigger one. He told his teacher that when the minds of the Korean people focused on **Kim Il Sung** were joined together, they would be the most formidable in the world.

Though he was just 6 years old, his thinking already reached the stage of dealing with important social issues.

Later his teacher recollected, “This assertion is impossible without considerable degree of logical intelligence and creation conception in analyzing and understanding things and phenomena. Such a discovery can be made only by a genius. $1+1=1$ is not a simple arithmetic formula but a profound philosophical theory.”

As he was possessed of ingenious ability to think and discover in his childhood, **Kim Jong Il** could defend socialism of the Korean style with his original Songun politics and lead the Korean people to victory in their struggle for the building of a powerful and prosperous socialist country.

4) Rare habits

Field style

In summer Juche 90(2001) **Kim Jong Il** was on a special train for his visit to Russia, which was running across Siberia.

While talking to an official over breakfast in the train after attending to state affairs, he said, **“You asked me not to skip meals or take snack as a meal even if I’m busy, but I’m afraid it would be impossible. I can’t change my habit of having simple meals and sleeping on a hard bed. If I lie on a bouncy bed, I feel my back aching and I can’t get sleep easily. I like the field style best. I am fully accustomed to the field-style life.”**

Field style was a mode of life to which **Kim Jong Il** was completely accustomed. His mode of life and work was always such a field style that his car and train were literally his dining room and sleeping lodge.

However, he never took it as a particular burden. Whenever officials earnestly asked him not to overwork, he said that he kept deciding that he must redouble his efforts to prove himself worthy of the expectations of the people who were cheerfully overcoming adversities and obstacles following the Party and who were concerned about his health.

Once he said, **“I am also a human being and at times I also feel tired and sleepy. But I am a soldier of President Kim Il Sung, and I have embarked on the road of revolution with a firm determination to bring glory and honor to our beloved country, to Korea, in the world, so I cannot rest and sleep at ease. When our Korea has beaten the world and our people live happily with nothing to envy in the world, I will rest at ease and sleep like a log as wished by the people.”**

One day, on his way for on-site guidance, he had a meal of rice-ball stuffed with

pickles with officials.

He used to take with him rice-balls on a long journey, saying that they were best to have when he felt hungry, that it didn't need particular ingredients and efforts to make, that it was easy to make for a sudden travel, and that it was convenient and time-saving to have it anywhere on the way, not giving trouble to others. He continued to say that for revolutionaries a rice-ball is an ideal food on a trip.

Kim Jong Il was so accustomed to field style that even during his visit to foreign countries he lived and worked just as he had done in the homeland.

During his visit to the Russian Far Eastern area in Juche 91(2002), officials requested him to loosen his schedule for the scorching summer. He replied that this visit also should be in a field style, a guerrilla style, and designated the train as his office-cum-bedroom, traveling to the destinations at night and visiting a series of planned places in the daytime.

Field style was an unbreakable habit of **Kim Jong Il**.

Born in Mt. Paektu during the anti-Japanese war, he spent his childhood with the guerrillas sometimes in a log cabin or a tent and other times in the mountains covered with snow and ice. And living near President **Kim Il Sung** in the hard days of wartime and postwar period, he accustomed himself to the real taste of field-style life.

Living his life in a field style, he continued his on-site guidance for the country and people.

Commoner's habit

Kim Jong Il was extremely modest.

In August Juche 91(2002) when **Kim Jong Il** visited an orthodox church in Khabarovsk of Russia, the church got out of its convention of striking bells at noon and asked the best ringers to ring the bells at the time of his arrival. The church superior explained to him about the reason, "As the sun has descended to our church, it is natural to ring the bell."

Russian president Putin who met **Kim Jong Il** in July Juche 89(2000) explained his impression of him in this way, "I feel very content with today's meeting with Chairman **Kim Jong Il** of the National Defence Commission. I have been deeply impressed by him. He is indeed a great man of the present times."

As such, his prestige was absolute but he always humbled himself and led a modest life.

The honorific title the Korean people officially gave him at first was "dear leader." People did not hesitate to use this title, but its formalization had to get over numerous obstacles.

Kim Jong Il, who had only allowed himself to be called "comrade," strictly held back officials from calling him "Dear Leader."

However, the title spread among the people. Nobody could deter the unanimous desire of the Korean people. But he kept steady in his opposition.

As the issue became serious, members of the Political Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea convened a meeting of the Political Committee without informing him of it, and raised the issue on the official agenda. They brought the same agenda to the 10th Plenary Session of the 5th Party Central Committee, and passed it with unanimous vote.

This happened in October Juche 87(1998), when **Kim Jong Il** met Jong Ju Yong, honorary chairman of the Hyundai Group of south Korea.

He visited the guesthouse and said: I thought that it would be immoral to let an

elderly person come to see me, a younger man and I have to go to see him; so I suspended my on-site guidance and came back to Pyongyang; I'm sorry to have come late at night. He then had a talk with the guest. He satisfied all of his requests, and had a photo taken with him. He ensured that the guest stood at the center, urging him to do so as he was an elderly man.

After meeting him, Jong Ju Yong highly praised **Kim Jong Il**, calling him a "man of noble virtues." At the press conference held in south Korea, he described **Kim Jong Il** as a "man who gives priority to the nation's common interests" and a "very reasonable and fascinating leader polite to the elderly".

Kim Jong Il was also very frugal.

The frugal life was his habit that had taken shape from his childhood.

It was when **Kim Jong Il**, who had been bereaved of his mother and in the remote rear away from his father, was to enter Mangyongdae Revolutionary School.

His great-grand parents had prepared some good notebooks and a knitted sweater for their grandson and asked him to commute from their house for the sake of his lonely sister.

Kim Jong Il said, "All the students there are bereaved of their parent or parents. They will envy me very much if I commute from home to the school, use good notebooks and wear a thick sweater. I will check into the dormitory and live equally with other students. I will use books and wear clothes supplied by the school."

President **Kim Il Sung** in his lifetime told officials that people might think that as the son of the head of state he would have grown up abundant in luxury, but actually he had grown up experiencing all sorts of hardships since his birth in the blizzard of Mt. Paektu and there would be no great person who had experienced lack of food and clothes as much as he had.

If **Kim Il Sung** ate cooked millet with bean paste and maize congee with salt, **Kim Jong Il** would do the same; if **Kim Il Sung** ate potatoes for a meal during his on-site guidance, he would follow suit. An ordinary school uniform and shoes

were his usual appearance at school.

He was so accustomed to such a life style since his childhood that he continued the modest way of life even after assuming the responsibility of leading the WPK and the military.

The photo of **Kim Jong Il** in a mantrip wearing a safety helmet made of clover during his on-site guidance at the Komdok mine on July 1, Juche 64(1975), is well known among the Korean people and the world people. The clothes he was wearing were made of vinalon-mixed-spun fabric.

That day his attendants advised him to change his wrinkled and shrunk clothes for another; **Kim Jong Il** said, **“It is true that clothes make the man, but I don’t see any point why I should dress up when I go to work. He who goes to see the working people can easily make friends with them only by wearing the same clothes,”** and set out on the road of on-site guidance.

Later the people’s living got improved, but there was no change in his clothes and food.

His usual clothes which was well known to the world was his casual jacket and field winter coat.

As he achieved great accomplishments, devoting his all to the country and people, but only led a humble and modest life, finding his pride and delight in the happiness of people, the Korean people and the world cherish greater respect for him and miss him more and more.

5) Noble hobbies

Going among the people

When hearing the news of **Kim Jong Il**'s on-site guidance the world people appraised him as a "leader going among the people by the train bound for people like President **Kim Il Sung**" and "people's leader who shares sweets and bitters with people".

On July 24, Juche 90(2001), when ITAR-Tass asked him what his hobbies were, he replied, "**As for my hobbies, I am fond of mixing with the people and soldiers, and spending time with them.**"

He continued that he found his life worth living and got most pleasure when he learned how they lived and worked, and took care of them, talking with them and sharing their feelings.

In Juche 83(1994), the last year of his life, President **Kim Il Sung** said in an interview with the CNN International reporters that his hobby was "to enjoy reading books and mixing with the people to spend time and talk with them". In Juche 81(1992), he had given the same reply to the question raised by the journalists of the Washington Times.

President **Kim Il Sung** had defined it as the major duty of a statesman to go among the people, and set a brilliant example of it. He had always gone among the people and led the Korean revolution by relying on them with "Go among the people" as his lifetime motto.

The world people witnessed his noble people-oriented leadership pattern in the life and struggle of **Kim Jong Il**.

Various places including factories, country farms, outposts of the army in the rugged mountains and the remote mountainous villages still carry the traces of his visit. A literary man said that "his traces linked together would make a map and history of the country."

Kim Jong Il had seen **Kim Il Sung** putting aside visit to his native home after his triumphal return to the liberated country to going among workers, farmers and intellectuals including the workers of the Kangson Steel Works, and uniting all the people to enlist them to build a new country.

In the days of the Korean war (June 25, Juche 39(1950)-July 27, Juche 42(1953) he accompanied **Kim Il Sung** to the forefronts, factories and farms braving the bombings of enemy's planes, and realized the strength of the blood-sealed ties between the people and the leader who was calling on the army and people to annihilate the enemy and prepare for post-war rehabilitation.

In particular in Juche 43(1954) after the ceasefire he accompanied **Kim Il Sung** in the on-site guidance at North Hamgyong Province along the east coast and around the river Tuman at the age of 12. Those were unforgettable days in which he learned the real value of "going among the people."

Later he recollected his visit to North Hamgyong Province with **Kim Il Sung**, saying that those were memorable days for him as it had helped him establish his revolutionary world outlook and have a sense of responsibility for the revolution.

Once he said: The masses of the people are the most precious beings in the world and the public sentiment is the will of heaven. They are erudite teachers and the most powerful force. The omnipotent beings, if there are, are just the masses.

At another time, he said: Whenever I set out for on-site guidance, I always think that there will be my soldiers in the army units I am going to and people in the factories and farms I am going to. So I start it with a light heart thought it may be a hard journey. As there are my people and soldiers in the construction site of the Huichon Power Station, I am leaving to meet them. I think it a great pride to travel a long and hard road to meet my soldiers and people.

When he visited a forefront unit exposed to the muzzles of the enemy rifles, he measured the thickness of the soldiers' padded clothes and shoes; when he visited a factory, he looked into the molten iron in front of an electric furnace and encouraged the smelters in their production achievements; when he went to a mine, he went into the deep pit to meet the miners; when he visited a farm, he discussed

with the farmers about farming; when he visited a farmer's house, he acquainted himself with the food and firewood problems; when he visited an ex-soldier's family, he named their yet-to-be-born baby at their request.

At the outset of the new year Juche 99(2010) **Kim Jong Il** inspected the construction site of the Huichon Power Station as the year's first on-site guidance.

After winding up the inspection, he got into his car but soon got out as if he were sorry about departing his soldiers. And he waved his hand with affection to the soldiers who were raising a cheer as they were overwhelmed by tears of gratitude for his visit on a freezing cold winter day and his encouragement.

Kim Jong Il once said, **“It is my greatest happiness to visit forefronts and meet my soldiers there. Though it was particularly hot this summer, I continued my inspection of the army units as before to meet the soldiers. I don't care about the weather or time when I go to see the soldiers as the Supreme Commander.”**

He was such a people's leader that the Korean people miss him so earnestly.

Favourite cogitation

One of the **Kim Jong Il**'s hobbies was cogitation.

From time immemorial meditation has been said to be the key to success, implying that without deep thinking any quest is inconceivable and it is impossible to lead the people and achieve any success.

President **Kim Il Sung** had given charge of his study to young **Kim Jong Il** as he liked reading more than others and had a strong spirit of inquiry. He avidly read the works of the President, the writings of renowned philosophers, ideologists and literary giants including Marxist and Leninist classics, selected works of world literature and books of almost all fields of science and technology, and in the course of this he acquired a regular habit of deep thinking and research.

One day in Juche 50(1961) when he was studying at **Kim Il Sung** University he told his fellow students, **“As it is said that the discovery of a truth starts with inquiry, it is necessary to think deeply by raising the question of about what kind of result was produced, why and how, in order to have a profound and logical understanding of all the problems.”**

The remarks give a glimpse of his world of analytical and inquiring cogitation.

According to the recollection of an official, the pages of every book he had read in Juche 47(1958) in his senior middle school days bore underlines or circles of different colour, innumerable symbols like “?” and “!” at important passages and his handwritten expressions of “*one-sidedness*” and “*needs clarification*” in the blank spaces of the pages, and many sheets of papers inscribed with the summaries of the pages were inserted between pages. His notes were also found in Marx's *The Communist Manifesto*. The sentence “Workers do not have any motherland” was underlined in read and in the blank above the sentence there was his handwritten note **“Yes, workers do have their motherland.”**

He concentrated all his passion when thinking about even one issue and he had a special ability to grasp the main point by delving into the issue.

He once said, **“I went to Mupho for fishing before. I can't forget the day**

when I was engrossed in cogitation over what sort of definition could I give to the revolutionary ideas of the President while fishing.”

That day he was so lost in his thought that he did not notice the fish swallowing the bait and the time passing so much.

He read countless books in three years and two months from the year of Juche 55(1966) to make comprehensive analysis and assessment of the preceding theories.

Although cogitation is accompanied by much mental tiredness, he regarded its process as a pleasant rest.

Once the officials who went to the seaside with him had a good rest there.

But they felt sorry for him when they realized that he had been preoccupied with deep thought over work while taking a stroll on the beach.

He said to console them, **“Today I have had a really good rest, too. It is my life to think while answering phone calls, giving a talk and travelling by car. I have completely been relieved of my fatigue, for I have been able to easily find solutions to vexed questions by concentrating my thought on them while walking around the seashore. I have really had a good time.”**

Such remarks cannot be made without making cogitation one’s habitual hobby.

In particular he enjoyed thinking while listening to music. For instance, while listening to Beethoven’s Fifth symphony, he mused philosophically on the destiny of human beings.

After listening to the music, he said that if Beethoven had known the way to shape his destiny, the work would not have ended with the wriggle over his misfortune.

He went on to say, **“Man has also the power to shape his destiny. There is no mysterious being in the world that carves out man’s destiny. Only man can shape his destiny through his own effort. All the activities of people are aimed at carving out their destiny.”**

A Korean poet wrote in a song in praise of him.

When white snowfalls everywhere to unfold a silvery world

The dear leader walks silently on it

O, he unfolds this thought over the surface of the white snow

As **Kim Jong Il** worked until late at night almost every day, an official once asked him to take care of his health.

Then he thanked the official and said to the following effect: It is true that it is tough to handle so many affairs. Some people say that I easily settle any problem right away, but it isn't always the case. I sometimes feel dizzy when concentrating for hours on a certain issue. But my delight is incomparable when I find a solution even at dawn. As I have always said, I'm going to lead my whole life wrapped up in work. This is my greatest happiness and joy.

His favourite - reading and music

On July 24, Juche 100(2011) **Kim Jong Il** answered ITAR-Tass of Russia, “**I also like reading books and listening to music, which are part of my life and a source of inspiration for my work.**”

“**A Book is a treasure trove of knowledge and textbook for a human life.**” and “**A Book is a companion, friend and quiet teacher in life.**”-these aphorisms of **Kim Jong Il** help us to infer his peculiar view on books and reading.

Reading was long-lasting routine for him. It was a prerequisite for carrying forward ideas and cause of President **Kim Il Sung** and good way of grasping the laws governing complicated social and natural phenomena.

Young people should be enthusiastic enough to read all night through, unaware of the passage of time, and man should not put down a book until he dies-this was his view on learning and reading.

His enthusiasm about reading is evidenced by the fact that he had read as many as 2 000 books until he finished the secondary school days. In *The Great Man and Books*, a collection of personal experiences, a librarian of the ten Secretariat of the Cabinet wrote, “**Kim Jong Il** had already read more books than any of the world’s great scholars before his university days.”

When he was once passing along the Taedong riverside, he said, looking up at the Tower of the Juche Idea, that if all the books that he had read to define the revolutionary ideas of the President since his school days were piled up, the stack might be as big as the pedestal of the tower. So it is easy to guess how big the stack would be if the books he had read on other fields like literature and common knowledge were added.

A publishing official recalled that **Kim Jong Il** had kept abreast of the developments in politics, the economy, culture, science, technology and all other areas since his early days and had read most of the books published in other countries as well.

Kim Jong Il did not miss any of the world's military books. Most of them were of big size, and each volume of encyclopedias, dictionaries and illustrated books was as big as a wooden pillow. For example, the eight volumes of *The Encyclopedia of Latest Weapons* blocked a view when stacked on his table. He had also read a large number of translated versions of military books, books on war experiences, and memoirs and biographies of illustrious commanders.

To summarize **Kim Jong Il**'s reading habits, he chose books purposefully and in a planned way; once he took a book, he concentrated his attention on it until he finished it no matter how thick it was; he read several lines at a time and at a fast speed; and he always jotted down his impressions.

There was a particular occasion which made him determine to read hard. It was a day in Juche 43(1954), when he had just started attending the then Pyongyang Secondary School No.1. Just back from his on-site guidance trip. President **Kim Il Sung** told him to the following effect: As secondary school students we would never lay aside books even if we had to skip meals in a freezing room because we had to make a revolution. We always read while fighting underground or in mountains. Enthusiasm is essential to both revolution and learning.

Thereafter, **Kim Jong Il** set the goal of reading books of all fields. The reading habit he had acquired in his teens became firm with the passage of time and persisted until his last days.

In addition to reading, he particularly loved music. From his early days, he would say his first love was music.

His love for music had much to do with the lineage of the Mangyongdae family.

His grandfather Kim Hyong Jik who led the anti-Japanese national liberation movement of Korea composed the poem Green Pine on Nam Hill with a message of Aim High, and Song of Advance, and his father **Kim Il Sung** who led the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle to victory wrote Song of Korea, Nostalgia and Song of Anti-Japanese War. They were both very musical. His grandmother Kang Pan Sok and his mother Kim Jong Suk, the anti-Japanese war heroine, also loved songs very much.

Kim Jong Il said, “**Music is form of art dearest to human life that instills into people ardent passion for life, rich emotion, throbbing vitality and hopes for and optimism about the future.**”

He said that the revolution advances and emerges victorious with songs, pointing to the need to defeat pessimism with optimism and smash despair with hope, always singing revolutionary songs loudly.

He especially loved music and songs containing profound philosophy, gentle, sentimental yet philosophical melodies and rich emotion.

When he once listened to the instrumental representation of a song *Let's Go to the Mountains and the Sea*, he commented that he could see a mountain, but no sea, and the music failed to convey the ideas of the lyrics as it lacked sentiment. Indicated the way of representation, saying that as the lyrics read “Let's go to the mountains and the sea”, the music should be played in such a way as to produce the mood at sea with all those waves and the mood in mountain with all those swaying forests.

On the occasion of the 90th anniversary of the birth of the anti Japanese war heroine Kim Jong Suk in Juche 96(2007) he gave detailed guidance over the fresh presentation of songs *Unforgettable Echoes over Lagoon Samil and Leaving my Heart Behind* in new rhythms so that they would sound more philosophical and make people think deeply. Thus the songs became the masterpiece of the times and very popular with the Korean people.

It was also music full of revolutionary faith and sentiment that he gave to the DPRK army and people during the “Arduous March” and the forced march, the hardest time for the country in the wake of the passing of President **Kim Il Sung**. When he visited the soldiers and people, he often took the State Merited Chorus with him.

2. Guide of the Times

From olden times it has been said that intelligence is what makes a great man a great beacon. The height of a great man lies in that of his philosophy and ideology. The art of leadership and personal traits are important for a leader, but what is more important for him is his ideology. In this regard, it can be said that the height of a great man is measured by his philosophical intelligence and ideology.

1) Foremost mission of a leader

A leader should be a famous philosopher

Kim Jong Il said, “If one is to lead the state and the revolution, he must have his own philosophy and political doctrine. A leader can administer the affairs of state successfully only when he becomes a famous philosopher with his own philosophy.”

He regarded ideological and theoretical intelligence as one of the most important qualities of a leader.

While giving a definition to the position and role of a leader in a revolutionary struggle, he likened a leader to the brain which controls all activities of human body and described him the “top brain of the revolution”, because he regarded it as the most important duty of a leader of the revolution to synthesize and analyze the demand and interests of the masses of people, generalize their experiences of struggle and, on this basis, put forward scientific thoughts and theories that serve as guide in the revolution and construction.

In retrospect, ever since the emergence of class society, the struggle of the people for freedom and liberation have continued for thousands of years century

after century and era after era. However, the masses of people could not fulfill their demand for independence as they did not have a correct guiding ideology or guideline.

Social revolutions were constantly carried out to replace slave society with feudal society and feudal society with capitalist society, but oppressors trampled on the people's independence more craftily and covertly. The chains of slavery were replaced by the shackles of feudalism, which were followed by the yoke of capitalism.

With the creation of Marxism the popular masses were provided with scientific communist ideology and strategy for struggle which enabled them to take the right path in the efforts to realize independence. As to this, **Kim Jong Il** commented, **“The whole life of Marx was the one of an outstanding thinker and theoretician and of a great revolutionary. He initiated the international communist movement and ensured that a radical change was brought about in the struggle for freedom and liberation of the working class and the masses of people.”**

Lenin inherited Marxism and applied it to the revolutionary practice in the absolutist Russia, thereby establishing a socialist state, the first of its kind in the world.

In particular, the founding of the Juche Idea by President **Kim Il Sung** and the opening of a new era called as the Juche era were a landmark event in shaping the destiny of the masses.

Kim Jong Il did not think that the significance of the matter of a leader's ideological intelligence was only confined to the general objective of realizing the freedom and liberation of the people. He thought that political guidance over social life as a whole could also be realized successfully only when it was based on a correct political doctrine and theories.

The character and success of politics hinge on the doctrine and theories it is based on. If politics is not based on a scientific ideology and theories it is bound to waver in the trials of history like a boat without a compass and is doomed to failure.

Herein lies the reason why an ideological struggle is a prelude to a political struggle.

There are a great number of countries and nations in the world and each of them has its political leaders. However, it is hardly possible to say that all the leaders of all the times have led their countries or nations without slight deviation or complications. On the contrary, it is not an overstatement that the world history of politics has recorded more politicians who stepped down in failure than those who retired in glory.

By drawing lessons from the history of politics, **Kim Jong Il** put forward aphorisms **“Political philosophy is the compass of leadership”** and **“Poverty in philosophy breeds poverty in politics”**, engraving in history the truth that a leader should have a right political philosophy.

The day he matriculated at **Kim Il Sung** University in September, Juche 49(1960), he climbed up Ryongnam Hill, where he recited his poem *O Korea, I Will Add Glory to Thee* representing his determination to carry forward the cause of President **Kim Il Sung**. His pledge of that day was the manifestation of his firm will to be an ardent advocate of the ideas and cause of the President, and a declaration of a successor made before the times and history.

Absolute espousal, 100 per cent Succession

In February Juche 72(1983), Inoue Shuhachi, honorary professor of Nikkyo University, Japan, wrote in Modern Korea and Secretary **Kim Jong Il**:

“The aim and significance of Secretary **Kim Jong Il**’s writings lie in defending President **Kim Il Sung**’s revolutionary ideas and demonstrating their greatness and originality mainly and at the same time in giving solutions to theoretical and practical questions arising in the course of accomplishing the cause of communism in reflection of the demand of the times and the masses of people. His works have some important features. The foremost one is that his writings take the President’s revolutionary ideas as a starting point and are based on them.”

The passage can be said to be a view starting from a correct understanding of the features of the ideological and theoretical activities of **Kim Jong Il**.

To champion, safeguard, inherit and develop the revolutionary ideas of the President was an unshakeable faith and motto of **Kim Jong Il**. This political creed was based on his view and stand that the revolutionary ideas of **Kim Il Sung** was the truth of eternal significance and vitality and on his firm belief that one can fulfill the honorable duty and mission one assumes on behalf of the times and history only by relying on and carrying forward the President’s ideas and theories.

Kim Jong Il started working at the Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea in June Juche 53(1964) with declaring that **Kim Il Sung**’s revolutionary ideas were the one and only correct guiding ideology for the Korean revolution.

In October Juche 69(1980) when he was appointed to a leading position of the Party at its 6th Congress he stated that it was his general mission to remain loyal to the President, committing himself to staunchly defending, inheriting and enriching the President’s revolutionary ideas and the revolutionary traditions established by him. One day in December Juche 80(1991), he said that he did not seek any fame, but only thought about how to carry out the directives of the President and how to discharge his duty for the revolution, solemnly swearing to carry on and

accomplish the President's cause and remain faithful to him to the end.

Kim Jong Il never put a premium on himself.

Whenever the people spoke highly of him in deep reverence, he would modestly say that he was only the President's soldier and disciple.

His contemplation and search for any idea or theory were all based on the Juche idea, the revolutionary idea of the President.

Already in his university days he wrote and published lots of works including *On Having a Correct Understanding of the Originality of the Theory of Socialist and Communist Construction*, *Let Us Firmly Defend Our Party's Line of Building an Independent National Economy*, *On the Great Leader 's Original Military Ideas*, *On the Original Principles of Building Revolutionary Armed Forces Put Forward by the Great Leader and The Position and Role of a County in Socialist Construction*, in order to prove the validity and vitality of the ideas and policies of the President.

In particular, his graduation thesis *The Position and Role of a County in Socialist Construction* is very famous as it scientifically and theoretically elucidated the validity, historical inevitability and practical significance of the idea of regional base in socialist construction the President had put forward for the first time at the Changsong Joint Conference of Local Party and Economic Officials.

Kim Jong Il cultivated from his childhood a thoroughgoing standpoint of defending and carrying forward the revolutionary ideas of **Kim Il Sung** and made it his steady habit.

Already in Juche 42(1953) when he was at primary school he sponsored the formation of a group for the study of General **Kim Il Sung**'s short biography, which was an event of profound significance. The aim of the study group was for the pupils to prepare themselves as pillars of the Korean revolution armed with the revolutionary ideas of the President through the study of his revolutionary history.

One day in May Juche 45(1956), the time after the war, there was a lecture at Pyongyang Secondary School No. 1 on the prospects of the five-year plan for the development of the national economy set forth at the Third Congress of the

Workers' Party of Korea. The lecturer said that as the country had just undergone a three-year-long war and its territory was so small, there was no need to build big factories manufacturing trucks, tractors and vessels which required a huge sum of funds and much labour, asserting that the best way was to import the machines by exporting mineral resources in bulk.

Kim Jong Il who had been listening to him carefully interrupted him with a protest, saying to the following effect:

You've said there's no need to make trucks and tractors in the country, but President **Kim Il Sung** set it as the Party's basic line of economic construction to develop heavy industry preferentially while ensuring a simultaneous development of light industry and agriculture. It doesn't make sense to say that we are to buy machines from other countries instead of making them. Please make clear about it once again. Dumb-founded with his face flushed, the lecturer cleared his throat a couple of times and took a handkerchief out of his pocket to wipe the sweat on his forehead. He then stepped down the rostrum. Stepping out of the lecture hall, **Kim Jong Il** told the fellow students that President **Kim Il Sung** had said that if the country was to stand on its own feet, industry should be developed before anything else and, to this end, machines should be made by its own efforts. He then referred to the necessity to make machines and build factories through the country's efforts by all means as the President instructed in order to build socialism where people live happily.

Even after the passing of **Kim Il Sung**, **Kim Jong Il** did his best to defend and enrich the President's ideology.

It was July 18, Juche 83(1994), a day before bidding last farewell to the President, when **Kim Jong Il** told the members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea that they should all live in accordance with the President's thought and intention and carry out his instructions, bearing his desire and intention deep in mind, and carry forward his ideas just as they had done when he had been alive, adding that if they did so forever and thoroughly, this would mean holding the President in high esteem permanently.

Therefore, in the wake of setting forth the slogan “The great leader Comrade **Kim Il Sung** will always be with us!”, he set the slogan “Let us arm ourselves firmly with the revolutionary ideas of the great leader Comrade **Kim Il Sung!**” as one of the main slogans of the Workers’ Party of Korea.

One day in November Juche 83(1994), he pointed to the need to arm the people with the Juche idea, the revolutionary idea of the Party, saying to the following effect: The Juche idea formulated by the President is the best. It is the only guiding idea for our revolution and construction and the lifeline of our nation. In order for our nation to live on, it should firmly arm itself with the Juche idea and advance as indicated by this idea.

On the other day he said that although the President had passed away, his ideas and achievements were immortal and that the President was immortal meant that his ideas and achievements were immortal and he would always live in the hearts of the people, adding that it would be better to say “Long live the great leader Comrade **Kim Il Sung**’s revolutionary ideas!”

As he had such mind he told the officials, who tried to name after him those ideas and theories he had put forward, that his ideas were identical with the President’s and that if they dug into his ideas, they would find nothing but the President’s revolutionary ideas.

2) The Juche idea shines as guiding ideology of the times

Evaluation of 100-year history of working-class ideas

While reading **Kim Jong Il**'s works like *On the Juche Idea* and *Socialism Is a Science*, the world people have praised his ideas and theories as a beacon illuminating the path ahead of the times. The number of the adherents of the Juche idea has steadily been increasing, and at present there are four continental organizations for the study of Juche idea with the International Institute of the Juche Idea as the main body, 27 national committees and some 1 000 study groups in the world.

“The Juche idea is the one that everyone should learn and it is an idea of mankind and the world, although it was born in Korea,” “His Excellency **Kim Jong Il** is a great Kimilsungist and great philosopher” - these are not only the views of Inoue Shuhachi, former director general of the International Institute of the Juche Idea, and of Herera Calix, professor of philosophy of history at Panama University, but shared by others.

The traits of **Kim Jong Il** as a great thinker and theoretician were first demonstrated when he analyzed and evaluated the 100-year-long history of the working-class ideas and defined the Juche idea as the only guiding ideology and doctrine for the revolution and construction in the era of independence.

He said to officials and social scientists, “**It is time to examine all the preceding ideas and theories on the basis of the Juche idea, the President's revolutionary idea. To analyze and sum up Marxism-Leninism is an urgent requirement of the times and the developing revolution, which brooks no more delay, and the historic task that we must carry out.**”

It was in the mid-1960s when he was just over 20.

Until then, as a matter of fact, a lot of people had regarded Marxism-Leninism as an “all-purpose formula”, and considered the victorious socialist revolution in

Russia, the first of its kind in the world, and its experiences in the building of socialism as a “universal mode of revolution”. The status of the previous theories had been recognized as something unbreakable. This was also a worldwide trend.

Some people in DPRK, too, blindly worshipped the works of Marx, Engels and Lenin, claiming that Marxism-Leninism was the “only right yardstick” and “universal formula” for the revolution and construction.

On the basis of the findings of his philosophical research he had conducted as a student at **Kim Il Sung** University, **Kim Jong Il** initiated a project to analyze and reevaluate the history of the preceding working-class ideas together with social scientists in May Juche 55(1966).

In the analysis of the previous ideas, he used the Juche idea, President **Kim Il Sung**’s revolutionary idea, as a standard by which to explain all the problems including the historical background to Marxism and Leninism, the requirements of the revolutionary struggle they reflected, the characteristics of their formation and development and the basis and structure of their world outlook.

In a little over three years, he made deep study of some thirty works of Marx, Engels and Lenin including *The German Ideology*, *The Communist Manifesto*, *The Critique of Political Economy*, *The Capital*, *Anti-During*, *Imperialism as the Highest Stage of Capitalism*, *The State and the Revolution* and *Materialism and Empirical Criticism*. He did not skim through the works but read them several times, noting down necessary things. Later he recalled that he had read the classics of Marxism-Leninism again at the time and perused *The Capital* three times.

Once he was reading *Some Questions on Leninism* when he left for a fact-finding visit to a certain unit and he was reading *Anti-During* on his way back. At that time an official took one of the books from the book pile on the seat in his car and found pieces of paper inserted between the pages bearing his inscriptions on his opinions about the theories of the authors.

In those days he fairly evaluated the historical achievements and position of Marxism and Leninism and contemporary limitations of their theories.

He explained that what was important in the historical achievements of

Marxism-Leninism, which had been recognized as the guiding ideology of the international communist and socialist movements for over a hundred years since the mid-19th century, was that it had established the revolutionary world outlook of the working class by combining materialism and dialectic, demonstrated the inevitability of the fall of capitalism and the triumph of socialism on the basis of the analysis of the material and economic foundations and socio-class relations of capitalism and developed socialism from a fancy to a science by putting the working class forward as those responsible for social changes. He noted, **“Marxism-Leninism blazed a trail for the socialist and communist movements in the international arena, making a great contribution to creating a history of victorious socialism. We ought to appreciate this.”**

Reviewing the 100-year history of the working-class ideas, he appreciated with due respect the exploits of Marx and Engels, who had originated the international communist movement, and of Lenin, who had brought about the beginning of transfer from capitalism to socialism, and the value of Marxism-Leninism as precious ideological and theoretical wealth of the working class.

On the basis of such analysis he declared, **“We can say with good reason and confidence that today there is no other ideology than the Juche idea, the revolutionary idea of the President that can correctly guide the revolution and construction.”**

After the analysis and summing up of the 100-year history of the working-class ideas he continued energetic contemplation and research and, finally on February 19, Juche 63(1974), formulated the revolutionary ideas of **Kim Il Sung** and announced them to the world.

That day **Kim Jong Il** proclaimed that the revolutionary ideas of the President were a system of Juche-oriented ideas, theories and methods, or the integrated system of the Juche idea and the theories and methods of revolution and construction clarified by the idea. He also elucidated the historic position of the revolutionary ideas of the President by defining them as the acme of the revolutionary ideas of the working class and the only guiding ideology in the era of independence.

Library of the Juche idea

Kim Jong Il systematized and formalized the Juche idea, the revolutionary idea of President **Kim Il Sung**, perfecting its looks as the guiding ideology in the era of independence.

The Eighth Plenary Meeting of the Fifth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea that took place in February Juche 63(1974), nominated **Kim Jong Il** as the successor to the President. At the national short course of Party information workers held on February 19, Juche 63(1974), six days after the nomination, he proclaimed the President's revolutionary ideas formalized in connection with his name.

Afterwards, he hardened his resolve to formulate in an all-round way the Juche idea constituting the essence of the revolutionary ideas of the President.

The fruit of this resolve was *On the Juche Idea*, a treatise he sent to the national seminar on the Juche idea held to mark the 70th birthday of President **Kim Il Sung** on March 31, Juche 71(1982). This is his typical work of writing showcasing the extraordinarily high level of his ideas and theories.

Kim Il Sung once said that he had read and evaluated many philosophical treaties but *On the Juche Idea* was the first one he gave full mark. He was deeply impressed by **Kim Jong Il**'s philosophical and theoretical attainments and was very happy that he had good successor.

Actually the President had been asked by heads of state of many countries to write a good book on the Juche idea for the world people but he had not thought of formalizing the idea, for he had devoted himself to revolutionary practice for all his life without seeking any ideological and theoretical authority.

In the work **Kim Jong Il** examined and formalized the Juche idea in all aspects from its origin to its historical significance.

The work clarifies that the Juche idea is a perfect guiding ideology of the times.

It explains that the Juche idea is an ideology consisting of a philosophical principle centered on man, socio-historical principles centered on the masses of people and guiding principles of the revolution and construction, proving that it is a guiding ideology of the times accurately reflecting the demand and aspirations of the era of independence.

It elucidates in an all-round way that the Juche idea is a new philosophical idea and gives a new philosophical outlook on the world, which is fundamentally different from the conventional revolutionary ideas of the working class.

To prove the definition that Juche idea is a new philosophical thought centering on man it refers to the fact that the Juche idea raised the fundamental question of philosophy centering on man and clarified the philosophical principle that man is the master of everything and decides everything and that it established a man-centered outlook on the world for the first time in history by throwing fresh light on man's essential characteristics and his position and role in the world. And it scientifically supports the definition with the philosophical elucidation of the intrinsic features of man as a social being possessed of independence, creativity and consciousness.

The philosophical definition that man is a social being with independence, creativity and consciousness is the basis that enabled the idea to be provided with a perfect system and contents as a man-centered philosophical thought. The scientific understanding of man is just the basis for both the philosophical principle that man is the master of everything and decides everything and for the socio-historical principles that the maker of history is the masses of people and a social movement is an independent, creative and conscious movement of the people. The distinguished services **Kim Jong Il** rendered to the history of philosophy lies in that he verified the scientific accuracy of the Juche idea by taking man as the focus of philosophical consideration.

It is not accidental that so many thinkers and progressive personages of the world described **Kim Jong Il's** placing of man as the starting point of philosophical consideration as a landmark event that brought about a radical turn in

the development of philosophy.

In an international symposium on the Juche idea a follower of the idea from Latin America said, “The Juche idea is a man-centered outlook on the world. Putting man at the center of all thinking and action is a new approach that has revolutionized the philosophical thinking of mankind. Engels said that with the appearance of Marx, mankind had grown taller by the head. Thanks to the Juche idea which regards man as the starting point of consideration, mankind has become a giant.”

The Juche idea clarified the laws unique to social history, while recognizing the general laws governing the development of the material world and affecting social history. On the Juche Idea proves that the Juche idea cast new light on the essence, characteristics and driving force of the socio-historical movement and established a fresh viewpoint and attitude that consider the historical development and social revolution with focus on its maker, the masses of people, by putting forward the principle that the maker of history is the masses of people, the socio-historical movement is their independent and creative movement and their consciousness of independence plays a decisive role in a revolutionary struggle.

In the work **Kim Jong Il** defined the guiding principles of the revolution and construction as components of the system of the Juche idea along with man-centered philosophical principle and the people-centered socio-historical principle, and developed the contents of the guiding principles which include those of maintaining independent and creative stand and placing the main stress on ideology.

The work evoked great positive response inside and outside the country.

Numerous countries including Russia, Italy, France, Denmark, China, Japan, India, Nepal and Ghana published the work in their native languages or gave a wide publicity to it. In less than a year since its publication, the work appeared in some 10 million copies of different publications in about 90 countries and was published in book form in 144 countries.

Prominent figures in many countries referred to it as a “new Communist

Manifesto published in the 80s of the 20th century”, “main philosophy textbook for the realization of independence for the masses of people” and the “first philosophy textbook that gives clear-cut answers to the question of human emancipation for the first time”.

One day in May Juche 71(1982), just after its publication, **Kim Jong Il** who was informed of the reactions to it said he was glad to hear that it caused a sensation, adding to the following effect: The response is great not because my writing is good, but because the Juche idea of the President is great. The President is a great thinker, theoretician and philosopher. I’ve never seen such a great thinker and theoretician as the President. What the President says is always logical like that of a philosopher, expressive like that of a writer and based on historical materials like that of a historian. That is why if the President’s teachings are put in order they become a famous work with great persuasiveness and influence.

A former professor of political science at Koryo University in south Korea, who had written a lot about the modern history of Korea stained with flunkism and dependence on outside forces and the gruesome realities of south Korea while saying that he could die without regret if he could only hear others say the Korean nation is the best, wrote in magazine Ryomyong as follows: “Leader **Kim Jong Il** who is a brilliant thinker and theoretician developed and enriched the immortal Juche idea as the great guiding ideology of the era of independence to give us an honor of being in the limelight as a great nation that has produced a top brain of a gigantic organism called mankind and a great master of ideology and theory.”

The Juche idea as eternal banner of the times

Just as creating a new revolutionary idea is great, so is developing it further in accordance with the demand of the times and the developing revolution.

Starting from the historical lessons of the development of ideas and theories, **Kim Jong Il** constantly engaged himself in energetic ideological and theoretical activities to discover and formulate new principles and theories to answer the questions posed by the new era of the Juche revolution, saying that no theory lasted forever, that the leader's theories of the revolution should be enriched steadily and that only then would they not lose vitality but be immortal.

Thanks to **Kim Jong Il**'s energetic ideological and theoretical activities, the principle of revolutionary outlook on the leader clarifying the position and role of the leader and the theory of socio-political organism were formulated on a scientific basis. The principle and the theory are vital questions in achieving the cause of independence for the masses of people at present times and their truthfulness has been proved in practice. On the basis of this, the revolutionary outlooks on the organization, the people and morality were formulated in a comprehensive way.

In addition, the viability of Juche idea was bolstered up remarkably by the theories he had set forth on the basis of the Juche idea including the lessons and cause of the collapse of socialism in some countries in the late 20th century, the idea on the scientific accuracy of socialism and its ideological basis, the idea on the fundamental questions in building a revolutionary party, a theory of the arms philosophy codifying the intrinsic requirement of the revolutionary movement in the Songun era, a theory of building a prosperous socialist country, the theory of Songun politics, a theory on the main force of the revolution in the Songun era and the theory on the basic line of economic construction.

He also paid close attention to arming people firmly with the Juche idea so that it gave full play to its vitality in the revolutionary practice.

He had formalized the revolutionary ideas of **Kim Il Sung** in connection with the President's name and declared the modeling of the whole society on the Juche idea as the supreme programme of the Workers' Party of Korea already in the 1970s and ever since intensified the work to arm all the people with the Juche idea.

He delineated not only the principles and ways of education in the Juche idea but also the practical measures to apply them in reality. He said that all forms of ideological education should be run through with the Juche idea while intensifying education in its principles, simplicity should be ensured in the education in line with the intellectual level and preparedness of the people and education should be carried out in close combination with the revolutionary practice.

When the education proved to be effective and viable in reality, **Kim Jong Il** was immensely happy.

On his visit to Taehung Youth Hero Mine (the then Taehung Youth Mine) in May Juche 98(2009), he was very pleased with the achievements of the workers and technicians, who had put the fire-proof materials industry on a Juche basis to prove the vitality of the Juche idea by practice. He said that their putting the fire-proof materials production on a Juche basis was a revolution and a great feat of remarkable significance in the industrial development of the country, noting that it was on a par with a successful nuclear test. He added that only the ardent followers of the Juche idea could do this and that the workers of the mine were adding brilliance to the Juche idea, the revolutionary idea of the President, not by words but by deeds to demonstrate its validity and vitality. He then paid deep respect to the diagram showing the process of fire-proof materials production.

When the officials, workers and technicians of the Songjin Steel Complex, who had made progress in producing Juche iron true to President **Kim Il Sung's** instruction that the followers of the Juche idea should make Juche iron, determined to work hard by setting themselves a higher goal, he gave them full support.

Later, great achievements were made in the production of Juche iron and solid foundations were laid for the production of Juche fertilizer and Juche fibre to give fuller play to the vitality of the Juche idea.

That is why Ogami Kenichi, secretary general of the International Institute of the Juche Idea, wrote in his writing *The Great Leader Leading the 21th Century*, “In the future the world will greet a new age when the Juche idea is applied to all areas and flourishes under the leadership of Secretary **Kim Jong Il**.”

One day **Kim Il Sung** highly praised **Kim Jong Il** for the exploits he had performed to enrich the Juche idea with new principles and theories in keeping with the requirements of the developing revolution and develop it in an all-round way, saying, “**It can be said that Comrade Kim Jong Il rendered it possible to nurture into a dense forest the Juche idea whose seed I had sown in the soil called people, and to gather a rich harvest.**”

3) Unfurled banner of Songun idea

The establishment of arms philosophy

The arms philosophy which was formulated by **Kim Jong Il** is a basic principle of the Songun idea. It is a starting point of all the theories and principles of this idea and on the basis of it they have been developed and systematized.

The arms philosophy contains the basic principle of revolution newly elucidated with arms of revolution as a major concern. It tells a principle that a revolution emerges victorious with arms, but fails without arms.

When **Kim Jong Il** was formulating this philosophy, a great change was taking place in the subjective and objective environment and conditions of the Korean revolution.

The collapse of socialism in different countries resulted in a big change in the world political structure and the balance of forces. Taking advantage of it the US pursued high-handedness more undisguisedly to realize its strategy for world domination. Iraq, former Yugoslavia and other countries fell victim to US despotism.

The tyranny of the US and its followers culminated in their moves to apply sanctions against the DPRK and stifle it.

Even worse, the Korean people suffered the greatest national loss on July 8, Juche 83(1994), the passing of President **Kim Il Sung**, and unprecedented severe natural disasters for consecutive years.

The DPRK was a focus of attention of the world people. But nobody knew yet what ingenious plan **Kim Jong Il** had to turn the tables. The world wondered what decision and choice he would make.

On the last day of Juche 83(1994), **Kim Jong Il** went to a shooting range. There were an automatic rifle and a machine gun before him, each with a fully

loaded magazine. He took a look at them for a moment and fired at the target with them in succession. It was a manifestation of his firm conviction and will: Don't expect any change from me. I will always defend the red flag of Juche associated with the life of **Kim Il Sung** by taking firm hold of the Party and arms.

On the morning of New Year's Day in Juche 84(1995), he visited the then Kumsusan Memorial Palace (Kumsusan Palace of the Sun at present), where **Kim Il Sung** lies in state, to pay homage to him and directly left for an inspection of a unit of the Korean People's Army. Later it was known in the history of the Korean revolution as an inspection of the Dwarf Pine Company.

That day he congratulated the soldiers of the company on the New Year. He saw them under firing drills, looked round the barracks and the education room and delineated tasks to be tackled by the unit to complete preparations for action and improve the soldier's life, saying that as long as there was the KPA loyal to the Party, national reunification and the revolutionary cause of Juche were sure to be accomplished.

The unforgettable concluding day of Juche 83(1994) and first day of Juche 84(1995) went by this way.

It was an unusual New Year. Until the year before, it had been customary to see the old year out with a new year celebration of children held in the presence of the President and see the new year in with a new year address delivered by him.

As soon as the news of **Kim Jong Il's** on-site inspection of the KPA company was reported, the enemy said that he had visited a missile unit 60 miles away from the front line and a western publication wrote that it was very meaningful that General **Kim Jong Il**, successor to President **Kim Il Sung**, paid a visit to an army unit on New Year's Day.

It was on the evening of that day. **Kim Jong Il** said to the senior officials of the Party, the state and the army that the most important thing in the revolution was arms, that if the army was weak, it was impossible to smash the enemy's counter-revolutionary offensive and the country would be crushed overnight, that the imperialist and reactionaries were resorting to ever possible means to stifle the

country that advances steadily under the banner of socialism in spite of any worldwide turbulence, that there was nothing to fear as long as the KPA was strong and that the enemy dared not make an attack because the KPA was strong.

It was since the mid-1990s that **Kim Jong Il** had used the term “arms philosophy” while formulating **Kim Il Sung**’s Songun idea. But it has very deep historical roots.

Kim Jong Il had grown up, forging an unusual relationship with arms from his childhood and had experienced the Songun revolution led by **Kim Il Sung**. This formed the historical, ideological and theoretical roots of the arms philosophy.

He was born in Mt. Paektu on February 16, Juche 31(1942), when the anti-Japanese war was at its height, and grew up in the theatre of war filled with the smell of gunpowder, hearing the sound of gunfire as a lullaby. The image of his parents etched in his mind in childhood was that of guerrillas in uniforms with pistols in their hands.

He learnt how to ride and shooting from guerrillas at an age when other children would play on their parents’ affection, and after Korea’s liberation on August 15, Juche 34(1945), he witnessed the historical process of the building and strengthening of the regular armed forces. During the Fatherland Liberation War fought between June 25, Juche 39(1950) and July 27, Juche 42(1953), he learnt **Kim Il Sung**’s art of war by the operations table at the Supreme Headquarters and saw the heroic KPA soldiers and people fighting against the US invasion.

In July Juche 41(1952), the days of the Korean War he was given by **Kim Il Sung** a pistol containing the noble aspirations of the Mangyondae family.

That day he said to the President, “**I will remember what you’ve said and carry on the revolution with the gun for all my life.**” Although he was only 10 his determination was firm.

With this determination in his heart, he worked hard to cultivate the intelligence and courage as a brilliant commander, spending time with anti-Japanese war veterans and the KPA personnel and in military camps.

Kim Jong Il started Songun leadership with the inspection of the Seoul Ryu

Kyong Su 105 Guards Tank Division in August Juche 49(1960), and his Songun politics began between the late 1960s and the early 1970s.

On June 26, Juche 84(1995), he said to the commanding officers of the Korean People's Army, **“I always breathe with gun. Everything in the world may change, but gun doesn't betray its owner. Gun can be said to be a permanent companion and comrade of a revolutionary. This is my cherished opinion and view of gun.”**

The validity of the arms philosophy was proved more clearly through the DPRK-US face-off which got fiercer after the mid-1990s.

The establishment of the arms philosophy was a general counter-blow to the US “logic of survival” and “logic of power”.

Original strategy of the Songun revolution

Systematizing the Songun idea on the basis of **Kim Il Sung**'s idea of attaching importance to arms and the military affairs, **Kim Jong Il** made it clear that the principle of the Songun revolution and the theory of Songun politics are the basic strategy to accomplish the cause of the Songun revolution.

Elucidating the strategy of the Songun revolution, he clarified, above anything else, the concept of Songun.

As to the historical origin of the concept of Songun, he said, **“The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung is the founder of the Korean People’s Army, and the history of his revolutionary activities is just the history of his leadership of the Songun revolution. At the outset of the revolutionary activities he started in his early years, he originated Songun reflecting the demand of the times and the revolution, and firmly maintained the idea of attaching importance to arms, the Songun idea and line in the whole course of leading the revolution.”**

It was after the mid-1990s that **Kim Jong Il** often used the notion of Songun in words like Songun era and Songun politics. However, he did not use the notion only by reflecting the developments of situation at that time. It was a notion that he used to give a general term to the history of **Kim Il Sung**'s revolutionary activities as he summed it up.

In interpreting the Korean revolution which had advanced under the banner of the Juche idea, it had been emphasized a great deal that each domain of the revolution and construction had been opened and developed in an independent and creative way. It is a historical fact known to the world that the building of the Party, government, armed forces, the economy and culture in the DPRK was all done in its own way by relying on the strength of the Korean people, the main agent in the Korean revolution.

The fact that the founding of the armed forces far preceded that of the Party and the state in the country was not merely a matter of time sequence, but a matter of

revolutionary strategy that guaranteed victory in the Korean revolution.

Kim Il Sung, who had been bequeathed two pistols from his father Kim Hyong Jik at a young age, always gave importance to the military affairs and channeled primary efforts into strengthening armed forces throughout his revolutionary career ever since he declared the anti-Japanese war. After liberating the country from the Japanese by an armed struggle, he continued to build up the revolutionary armed forces with numerous revolutionaries who had been tempered in the flames of the anti-Japanese revolution as the backbone and, on the basis of this, he founded the Party and established the state.

The founding of the Workers' Party of Korea in October Juche 34(1945) and the establishment of the people's government in February Juche 35(1946) were the brilliant fruits of the leadership of **Kim Il Sung** who had given priority to the buildup of the military power.

Kim Jong Il verified that **Kim Il Sung**'s consistent prioritization of arms and the military affairs in the revolutionary struggle was his original strategy of the revolution and that this strategy runs through the whole course of the Korean revolution.

Summing up the history of the Korean revolution, he said, **“Our revolution was pioneered with arms and has advanced victoriously with Songun, overcoming all kinds of difficulties.”** This evaluation became the premise for the notion of Songun to be defined.

On the basis of this he came to the conclusion that the history of the revolutionary activities of **Kim Il Sung** was that of his Songun revolutionary leadership in which he originated Songun and consistently maintained the idea of attaching importance to army, the Songun idea and line.

In the mid-1990s, the Korean people suffered the greatest national loss with the death of the President while facing the vicious moves of the US and its followers to stifle socialism in the DPRK, the difficulties in economic construction and the consecutive years of natural disasters. There were speculations going around the world that a policy “a little different from the previous line” would be pursued and

there would be a “policy switch to opening and reform” in the DPRK.

With an insight into these subjective and objective conditions and environment, **Kim Jong Il** declared to the country and the world his will to continuously carry forward the strategy of the revolution the President had adhered to for all his life. At that time he proclaimed the strategy of the Korean revolution Songun in an intensive way. The essential meaning of Songun is that the most important thing in the revolution and construction is the military affairs and the army.

This is how the political concept of Songun was named and announced.

Afterwards **Kim Jong Il** concentrated his efforts on theoretical activities to formalize the strategies of Songun revolution.

The main components of the principles of the Songun revolution set forth in the 1990s as a methodological guide in implementing the cause of the Songun revolution are the principle of giving precedence to the military affairs and the principle of giving priority to the army over the working class.

The principle of giving precedence to the military affairs regards and gives priority to the military affairs as the most important of the state affairs. It is an important principle of the Songun revolution set forth by **Kim Jong Il**.

One day in March Juche 86(1997), he told the commanding officers of the Korean People’s Army that they should know why he frequented the army units instead of providing on-site guidance to factories or farms when the country’s economic conditions were poor and that if he had gone about trying to settle the immediate, yet temporary, economic problems, only thinking of economic hardships, the country would have already gone to ruin.

It was his unshakable view that if the supreme interests of the state are guaranteed militarily, the economic construction is not a problem.

The principle of giving priority to the army over the working class starting from a new viewpoint of the revolutionary army also takes an other important position in the principles of the Songun revolution.

The starting point of this principle is a new viewpoint and attitude that regard the Korean People’s Army as the main force in the revolution.

The preceding working-class theories clarified on analysis of the socio-class relations in capitalist countries in the mid-19th century, that the working class is the most progressive and revolutionary class and defined it as the leading class and main force in the revolution. Since then it had been recognized as an inviolable formula to wage the revolutionary struggle with the working class as the core and mainstay.

While analysing the present reality in which the social environment, class relations and the condition of the working class had all changed to a great extent, **Kim Jong Il** came to a new conclusion that today's working class could hardly be identified with that of the age of industrial capitalism or that of the time of proletarian revolution.

He broke away from the previous way of thinking that regarded the question of the main force in the revolution as unchangeable only in the aspect of class relations, and proved that the Korean People's Army is the main force in the Korean revolution under the present circumstances.

In the DPRK, to protect the Party, the revolution, the country and the people at the cost of their lives from the US is the mission of the KPA that no other social group can fulfill in place of it.

The KPA has the key to solving the serious question of whether socialism in the DPRK can be defended or not, and the examples of self-reliance and the laws guiding the revolution come out of the KPA. Accordingly, **Kim Jong Il** set forth the new principle of the revolution that the KPA should be put forward as the main force in the revolution.

The formulation of the theories and strategic and tactical matters related to the mode of the Songun revolution and the mode of Songun politics, by which to mobilize the masses of people to implement the cause of the Songun revolution on the basis of the arms philosophy and the principles of the Songun revolution, is an important component of **Kim Jong Il's** strategy for the Songun revolution.

Referring to the essence of Songun politics, he said, **"The Songun politics of our Party is a powerful mode of politics of our times that considers the**

military affairs as the most important of the state affairs and defends the country, the revolution and socialism and dynamically pushes ahead with overall socialist construction with the People's Army as the core, the main force."

Establishing Songun politics in an all-round way, he made it clear that Songun politics in the DPRK is aimed at achieving decisive victory in the confrontation with imperialism and bringing about the prosperity of the country and accordingly, it assumes anti-imperialist and independent character and embodies the love for the country, the nation and the people. He also elucidated its historical position as the main political mode of socialism by explaining that it makes it possible to hold fast to and apply the basic ideal and principle of the revolutions that it enables the benevolent politics and all other political modes to be administered in the whole course of implementing the cause of socialism in the country.

Kim Jong Il said, **"The main basis of Songun politics is the revolutionary soldier spirit of the People's Army."**

The revolutionary soldier spirit was a basic premise for establishing Songun politics in an all-round way and sure guarantee for its realization.

Kim Jong Il made it clear that this spirit, whose main components are the spirit of devotedly defending the leader, the spirit of implementing the Party's policies at any cost and the heroic self-sacrificing spirit, is a revolutionary spirit symbolizing and representing the Songun era and an ideological and spiritual weapon with which to work miracles and perform great feats in the revolution and construction, thereby defending its historical position and role.

On April 18, Juche 96(2007), **Kim Jong Il** said, **"The Juche-oriented revolutionary Party, the invincible revolutionary armed forces and the single-hearted unity of the revolutionary ranks - these three revolutionary forces make up the pillars of Songun politics and a powerful driving force of the revolutionary cause of Juche."**

In the DPRK, the Party is the guiding force of Songun politics, the Korean People's Army is the vanguard and shock brigade which uphold Songun politics in

the van, and single-hearted unity is a powerful driving force of Songun politics. Hence these three forces make up the powerful revolutionary forces for Songun politics to rely on.

In addition, **Kim Jong Il** formulated the Songun leadership system, which comprises the monolithic leadership system of the Supreme Commander over the entire armed forces and the national-defence-oriented state administration system bestowing remarkably enhanced position and authority to the National Defence Commission and the art of Songun leadership integrating the revolutionary principles, creativity and adroitness.

Today the Songun idea and revolutionary line of **Kim Jong Il** are drawing considerable attention of the world political circles and there is a growing tendency to learn them while praising them as an “idea and political line of universal significance not confined to any one country”. This is evidenced by the brisk activities of many study groups of the Songun idea and Songun politics along with study groups of the Juche idea formed in different countries and regions of the world. Such a study group is also found in the US.

4) Road of liberation struggle illuminated for humanity

“Socialism Is A Science”

The collapse of socialism in the former Soviet Union and other Eastern European countries posed to the world progressives a number of serious problems to be solved not only in practice but in theory.

What are the reasons of the collapse of socialism in the above-said countries and the lessons derived therefrom? Is socialism the right road and can it emerge victorious? Which way should all countries and nations take to carve out their destinies? ...

The frustration of socialism in some countries in the late 1980s and the early 1990s was a shattering blow to the peoples who were fighting to build an ideal society which guarantees freedom and equality, free from any exploitation and oppression.

Its aftereffect swept the whole world.

It tarnished the image of socialism among the public and a large number of people lost confidence in victory of socialism and gave up their struggle. Not a few communist and workers' parties were split or disbanded after going through serious ideological vacillation. Furthermore, some parties revised their programs or changed their names.

The gravity of the situation was not confined to this. Progressive political parties in several regions, which were stepping up the building of a new society after freeing themselves from the yoke of imperialist colonial rule through the bloody struggle for national liberation, yield up their struggle. To make it worse, the social, and socialist, democratic parties in some countries that had joined in the struggle for independence against imperialism began to vacillate, gradually turning to the right wing.

The US and other imperialist reactionary forces took advantage of this

opportunity to fuss about the “end of socialism”, trumpeting that socialism is a “non-scientific ideal that appeared by chance” on the stage of history and a “society with a gloomy prospect”. The renegades of socialism claimed that the ideal of socialism itself is invalid and that the socialist revolution was a wrong choice from the beginning.

In those days, a Chinese newspaper said: “In recent years the international reactionary forces are singing in chorus about the ‘failure of socialism’ and the advocates of bourgeois liberalization are arguing that the ‘failure of socialism’ is a great ‘heritage’ of the 20th century.” It was at that time when the reactionary forces were clamouring about the “victory of capitalism” over socialism.

At this juncture **Kim Jong Il** made up his mind to make public a work that would verify the scientific accuracy of socialism in a comprehensive way. He had already analyzed in depth the reasons and lessons of frustration of socialism in his works, including *The Historical Lesson in Building Socialism and the General Line of Our Party and Abuses of Socialism Are Intolerable*. His determination was practically proved in the publication of his work *Socialism Is a Science* on November 1, Juche 83(1994).

Kim Jong Il said: “In order to deal a blow to the imperialists and reactionaries who are opposed to socialism and to inspire the people with confidence that socialism will surely emerge victorious, I published a treatise *Socialism Is a Science*, which made clear the scientific accuracy and truth of socialism.”

At the beginning of the treatise, he wrote: “**Socialism is the ideal and the revolutionary banner of the popular masses who are fighting for independence. The masses achieve their independence by means of socialism and communism.**” He outlined the course of protracted struggle of humankind, and proved that socialism is an inevitable stage of historical development and that it is a historical review of the development of human society. And, in order to realize the masses’ independence, a society based on individualism must be replaced by a society based on collectivism, by socialism.

The essence of his treatise is: It is a truth proved by history that socialism is the most just cause for realizing the people's independence and the right cause of the masses will surely emerge victorious. The genuine future of humankind is in socialism, whose victory is inevitable.

Kim Jong Il had already stated that the trend of history would not be determined by the intention 'or desire of an individual nor would it be decided by a chance factor or event and that history advances by the masses, its makers, and moves in the direction of fulfilling their independent demands. What he meant by the direction of fulfilling their independent requirements was nothing but the road to socialism.

On the basis of the historical experience of the Workers' Party of Korea, which has always rallied the people around the Party and the leader closely as required by the Juche idea, he set it as the fundamental way of realizing socialism to strengthen the driving force of the revolution and steadily enhance its role. He advanced an idea that the view on and attitude to man and the popular masses is a criterion for deciding the scientific character and validity of ideas, theories, lines and policies, and verified that the man-centred socialism, socialism centred on the masses, is the most scientific socialism.

After making the problems arising in the building of people-centred socialism in an all-round way, he concluded his work as follows, **“Man-centred socialism, socialism centred on the popular masses, is absolutely scientific, and the most advantageous and powerful socialism. For its scientific accuracy and truth, socialism is sure to be victorious.”**

The treatise stirred a great sensation among the world progressives.

They praised the treatise as “a comprehensive thesis on socialism,” “a perfect idea on scientific socialism,” “a great ‘Communist Manifesto’ of our times” and “a beacon light illuminating the course ahead of ships sailing on a pitch-dark night” and made up their mind to dynamically promote the world socialist movement under its banner.

“As Comrade **Kim Jong Il** asserted, socialism will without fail be revived for

its scientific accuracy and truth. I am convinced that socialism, an ideal society free from exploitation and oppression, will win ultimate victory. As clarified by Comrade **Kim Jong Il**, the people aspiring to socialism should envisage the victorious future in the people-centred socialism of Korean style and advance vigorously toward socialism....” This is what the chairman of the national commission of Uganda for the study of the Juche idea who is a member of the National Resistance Council of Uganda said after reading the treatise.

A newspaper editor of a country said: The great leader Comrade **Kim Jong Il** put forward an outstanding idea and theory that even Marx, Engels and Lenin had not. His treatise is a grand program of the current international communist movement, far surpassing the Communist Manifesto.

Ogami Kenichi, secretary general of the International Institute of the Juche Idea, highly appreciated the significance of the treatise, saying that the publication of the treatise provided an unshakeable cornerstone to the idea of socialism and threw a bright light on the shadowed image of socialism.

“Frankly speaking, I was temporarily disappointed and frustrated after the Soviet Union collapsed. It was the great Comrade **Kim Jong Il** that gave me a firm conviction in socialism and courage at that time,” said Umalatova, a renowned Russian woman activist.

Oleg Shenin, a political party leader of Russia, said: Who has ever ventured to write a piece of article on defending and reviving socialism in such a trying period when socialism was frustrated and the mad wind against socialism was blowing furiously? ... Only Comrade **Kim Jong Il** has put forward many ideological theories for the strengthening and development of the international socialist movement and applied them in practice. Herein lies the greatest exploit of Comrade **Kim Jong Il** as the saviour and champion of socialism.”

In February of the first year in the new century a Russian newspaper carried the following article, causing a great sensation:

Many people around the world are linking the 21st century with the name of the supreme leader of north Korea, predicting that it will be “**Kim Jong Il**’s century”.

He has defended socialism from all-out attacks of the Western powers to isolate and stifle the socialist Korea. He published a number of significant works, including *Abuses of Socialism Are Intolerable* and *Socialism Is a Science*, dealing a decisive blow to the renegades of socialism and inspiring the world progressives with confidence in socialism.

As the reality shows, history advances in line with the aspiration and desire of humankind.

Adhere to Juche character and national identity

Kim Jong Il made a scientific analysis of the situation in which the imperialists are becoming evermore pronounced in their attempts to stamp out the Juche character and national identity of other countries and nations in the international arena, going against the present times when the popular masses are carrying out the revolution and construction actively on their own initiative with the nation-state as a unit and with their destiny firmly in their hands. Based on this, he set it as an important principled requirement to maintain the Juche character and national identity in the revolution and construction.

A famous work which incorporates this idea is *On Preserving the Juche Character and National Character of the Revolution and Construction* published on June 19, Juche 86(1997).

Kim Jong Il said, “**In order to thwart the dominationist machinations of the imperialists and reactionaries and give a strong impetus to the people’s cause of independence, the cause of socialism, we must maintain the Juche character in the revolutionary struggle and construction and sustain their national character. Preserving these qualities is imperative for the independent development of the country and nation and for success in realizing independence for the popular masses.**”

Maintaining the Juche character of the revolution and construction means that the popular masses shape the destiny of their country and nation and their own destiny independently and creatively by being the masters of their destiny. Sustaining the national character means preserving and developing the good qualities of the nation and embodying them in all spheres of social life.

He explained: A country and nation is a community of people as well as a basic unit in which they shape their destiny. The masses’ destiny is inseparably linked with the destiny of their country and nation. Since the popular masses live and shape their destiny within a nation-state as a unit, the masses’ cause of

independence, the socialist cause, is in no way separate from their country and nation, and it is impossible to realize the masses' independence unless the independence of their country and nation is ensured.

He made clear that preserving the Juche character and national character is the common requirement and aspiration of all countries and all peoples.

It was his viewpoint that, since each nation has peculiar cultural traditions that have been formed and consolidated down through history, it is impossible to meet the masses' desire for independence and their interests to the full if the Juche character and national identity are ignored.

There exist no people who do not love and value their country and nation nor like to see the dignity and soul of their nation trampled upon and ignored. It is a truth proved by history that preserving the Juche character and national identity makes it possible to champion and realize the independence for the people and ensure the independent development and prosperity of the country and the nation.

From this viewpoint, he stated that all countries and nations can shape their own destinies successfully only when they keep the dignity of the country and the soul of the nation by maintaining the Juche character and sustaining the national identity in the struggle to this end.

He said that preserving the Juche character and national character and ensuring the independent development of the country and the nation are an essential requirement for strengthening international unity and solidarity and contributing truly to the development of the world revolutionary movement, thus making clear that the above-said line is a just one which makes it possible for each country's party and people to be faithful not only to the national duty but to the international duty.

Analyzing the historical course of collapse of socialism in some countries, he ascribed the frustration of socialism in a number of countries mainly to their failure to see the historical limitations of the previous theories and preserve the Juche character and national identity, taking dogmatic attitude toward them.

In fact, in the early years of the international communist movement when the

authors of the preceding classics lived, the driving force in those countries was not prepared to promote the revolution independently. Consequently, it was inevitable to a certain degree to hew out and advance the world socialist movement under the guidance of an international centre.

Such historical conditions presented it as the main issue to strengthen international unity and solidarity among the working class in the drive to accomplish the socialist cause.

After all, the previous theories were unable to raise the problem for the parties and peoples in each country to maintain the Juche character in the accomplishment of the socialist cause but confined themselves only to emphasize the importance of international unity.

It was the limitations of the preceding theories that they failed to give correct solutions to the question of preserving the national character and give priority to it, predicting that the nation itself would gradually disappear with progress in the building of socialism in all countries.

Kim Jong Il thought it was a big problem that the political parties in several countries which had been building socialism in the past failed to evolve a new theory and a new policy in keeping with the new realities and find correct solutions to the problems arising in ensuring the independent development of countries and nations.

Actually, those parties regarded it as contradicting internationalism to carry out the revolution and construction to meet their people's desires and to suit their national characteristics and their countries' specific situations within the world socialist movement. Because of this prejudice and incorrect policy, socialism in these countries failed to develop as a cause for these countries and nations and, in consequence, lost its national footholds and support.

Based on this analysis, **Kim Jong Il** defined, **“Socialism is a class cause and at the same time a cause for national development and prosperity.”** He concluded that because the socialist cause failed to become the cause of genuine national independence in several countries, socialism suffered a gradual weakening

of its class foundation and was unable to ward off frustration and collapse.

The imperialists' reactionary policy of suppressing the Juche character of countries and nations and obliterating their national traits is now taking on a new form under the signboards of "globalization" and the trend towards a "monolithic" world.

The imperialists and their mouthpieces claim that the "revolutionary development" of traffic and communications technology is bringing about an increase of human and material exchanges and making it difficult for a state to control the flow of capital and information as the days go by and, in consequence, the national sovereignty as an exclusive right to hold the territory is on the rapid decline. They hold that the country and the nation as a living unit will disappear and the world will be "integrated" with the development of information technology.

Kim Jong Il stated that in the present-day world where each country and nation shape their destiny with their own ideas, systems and culture, there can be no a "monolithic" world which covers all spheres of politics, the economy and culture. He ascribed the reason to the fact that with social development and ties and interchange among different nations becoming closer, common features increase in the lives of nations, but this process always presupposes the independent and individualistic development of nations and takes place on the basis of such development.

He disclosed that the imperialists have cooked up the trend toward a 'monolithic' world for the purpose of reducing the whole world to the Western-style 'free world' and subjugating and assimilating all nations to them. He called on all countries and nations to see clearly the danger of the imperialist policy of obliterating nations which is pursued in the name of the trend towards a "monolithic" world and intensify the struggle to defeat the dominationist manoeuvres of the imperialists.

His treatise on preserving the Juche character and national character in the revolution and construction was given wide publicity and studied and disseminated,

creating a great sensation among the world progressives as soon as it was published.

In the first year alone after its publication more than 140 mass media in over 80 countries gave publicity to it. In particular, such Western newspapers, news agencies and radio stations as the Reuters, BBC and The New York Times put special emphasis on the parts of his treatise that preserving the Juche character and national identity is the fundamental principle to be adhered to in carrying out the socialist cause and that no hopes should be pinned on the imperialist “aid”.

The secretary of the Central Executive Committee of the National Council of the Communist Party of India expressed his excitement by saying: Today when the fierce Western wind of the “monolithic world” and its “integration” is posing a serious threat to the right to national self-determination and the national identity of some countries, the above-said treatise of **Kim Jong Il**, the great leader of socialist Korea, is of great significance in the international arena. It is a great platform for frustrating the imperialists’ machinations to dominate the world and stepping up the human cause of independence. Human history has recorded a number of leaders, but there has never been an outstanding thinker and theoretician like Comrade **Kim Jong Il**, who interpreted the problem of preserving the Juche character and national identity of the revolution and construction in combination with the issue of shaping the destiny of the masses.

3. Renowned Veteran Statesman in the Present Times

The world community highly praised **Kim Jong Il** as a renowned veteran statesman in the present times, transcending differences in ideologies and systems.

As President **Kim Il Sung** was acclaimed as a veteran statesman of the world in the 20th century, so was the case of **Kim Jong Il**. The fact that he enjoyed high esteem of the public in the world political arena has a world of meaning.

One of outstanding personal characters of **Kim Jong Il** as a great man was that he was a veteran statesman with long political career and renowned statesman who performed great exploits.

1) Half-a-century-long political career

Kim Jong Il had a 50-odd-year-long political career. He led the Party, state and army for 51 years, viewed from August Juche 49(1960) when he had started the Songun revolutionary leadership, and for 47 years, viewed from June Juche 53(1964) when he had begun to work in the Central Committee of the WPK.

But the mere mention of his unusually long experience in Politics is not an enough talk about his political career.

A critic said that it is difficult to maintain oneself in power and what is more difficult is to decorate it. This means that it is easy to become a politician, but it is difficult to perform his duty and role as a politician. As a matter of fact, a politician's fame builds up in parallel with his accomplishments and, for this reason, it decides to what extent history will record him. In the long run, it will be correct to say that a veteran politician must not only have a protracted political career but

make great achievements throughout his or her life.

President **Kim Il Sung** had an interview with the journalist from The Washington Times on April 16, Juche 83(1994) in the final days of his life.

That day when the delegation asked about the issue of succession of leadership in the DPRK, **Kim Il Sung** said, “**Comrade Kim Jong Il has long been leading the work of the Party, the state and the army as a whole in our country. Our people have been holding Comrade Kim Jong Il in high respect and absolute trust since long ago, calling him ‘dear leader’. Because Comrade Kim Jong Il, who is endowed with all the qualities and qualifications for the people’s leader, has taken over our ideas and leadership creditably, all work is going well in our country and will continue to go smoothly in the future, as well.’**”

Kim Jong Il was put forward the heir to President **Kim Il Sung** in accordance with the unanimous will and desire of the Korean people on February 13, Juche 63(1974), three days before his 32nd birthday, for his extraordinary qualities, personalities as a leader, and remarkable accomplishments.

After graduation from **Kim Il Sung** University he began to work at the WPK Central Committee as an official from June 19, Juche 53(1964). He successively held the posts of section chief, deputy department director and department director. He was elected member and secretary of the WPK Central Committee. His career of starting his work at the basic units of the WPK Central Committee enabled him to gain rich experience of political activities.

In the course of events he acquired a wealth of political qualifications and abilities, including an extraordinary political sense of pinpointing the essence of complicated political events and a keen sense of correctly analyzing and judging them, a spirit of resolution and perseverance of carrying out without fail what he is determined to do and a scientific foresight of predicting in good time the future trend of development.

He made great achievements of historic significance, accumulating rich political experience and abilities while actively assisting President **Kim Il Sung** in his work at the WPK Central Committee for a decade.

He established the Party's monolithic ideological system so as to ensure its politico-ideological integrity and purity, strengthened the Korean People's Army and introduced a revolutionary way of life and work into the whole country. He not only made eye-opening achievements in the drive to step up the socialist construction in the DPRK and hasten Korea's reunification but ushered in a heyday of Juche arts of the 20th century by bringing about an innovation in the literature and the arts.

After President **Kim Il Sung** passed away, in particular, he flexibly overcame a multitude of ordeals and difficulties, including the US moves to stifle the DPRK and the economic downturn caused by consecutive natural calamities and thus brought about an era of a turning point in the DPRK to build a socialist thriving country.

When looking back upon history, there used to be a political vacuum and some public disorder after a head of a state had passed away or stepped down from power for certain reasons, affecting the internal and external policy-making and state management of that country for a while. It is regarded as an unavoidable phenomenon of the political world.

Some media of the Western world, in their own analysis of the political situation in the DPRK after President **Kim Il Sung** had passed away, predicted that similar political chaos would happen in that country, too.

On the contrary, the DPRK wrought world-startling miracles in the drive to build a socialist prosperous country under the effective and experienced leadership of **Kim Jong Il**.

Penetrating in a scientific way into the requirements of the developing realities entering a new century and the trend of ever-changing complicated world politics after the end of the Cold War between the East and the West, **Kim Jong Il** formulated Songun politics as the main political mode of socialism and administered it in an all-round way, thus turning a new page of politics in the 21st century characterized by Songun.

Kim Jong Il's career of having led the Korean revolution for over five decades was indeed a history of his devoted service for the sake of the people as well as a brilliant history of a renowned veteran statesman in the present times.

2) Strict adherence to the independent stand

Independent politics - lifeline of modern politics

Kim Jong Il was a thoroughgoing statesman for independence. His greatness traces its origin to his creed that regarded the politics of independence as the lifeline of modern politics.

Independent politics is the lifeline of modern politics-this is an aphorism he formulated about five decades ago on the basis of his scientific insight that the present age is an era of independence and that independence is the life and soul of a country and a nation.

It was a truth of history **Kim Jong Il** keenly felt from his early days while witnessing the realities of the Korean revolution and the world politics that a nation can survive if it strictly adheres to the principle of independence but it will be ruined if it takes to flunkeyism and dogmatism.

As a witness to modern history, he grew up in the acute struggle between independence and subjugation. In those days he was firmly convinced that the people armed with independent consciousness and the nation led by a political leader of strong independent faith and courage would always emerge victorious.

In particular, some dramatic events that took place in the international political arena in and after the mid-1950s provided him with a new opportunity to think over the question of independence and subjugation as a life-and-death matter.

In the mid-1950s the then Soviet leader Khrushchev decried the WPK's basic line of economic construction on giving priority to the growth of heavy industry while simultaneously developing light industry and agriculture. He scoffed at the idea, saying how the DPRK could carry out the line on the war debris. Upon hearing the news, **Kim Jong Il** felt a surge of resentment against the

contemptuous viewpoint of revisionists towards the Korean people. Closely watching their attempt to bring other countries over to the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (COMECON), he considered the issue of acceding to the COMECON to be a crucial and decisive matter between self-sustenance and dependence and between independence and subjugation. He consolidated his conviction through his study of President **Kim Il Sung**'s works that each country should live independently and that a man, a politician in particular, should have a strong sense of independent principle.

Recalling those days later, he said that the DPRK had been absolutely right not to join the COMECON and the Warsaw Treaty Organization and that nobody could guess how tremendous damage it would have suffered if it had entered those organizations.

Witnessing the wise leadership of President **Kim Il Sung** steering the Korean revolution with a thoroughgoing politics of independence, he cherished more deeply in his mind that the independent politics is indeed the lifeline of modern politics.

The President's deep-rooted conviction in independence brought about the achievement of a historic cause of Korea's liberation, the great victory of the DPRK in the severe Fatherland Liberation War, the successful fulfillment of such historic tasks as the building of a new country, the post-war rehabilitation and the socialist revolution and construction.

Kim Il Sung never gave in his independent stand in any circumstances.

Based himself on a scientific insight into the Korean people's aspiration and the specific realities of the country after the Korean war, the President confirmed that the subjective and objective conditions were ripe for putting forward a slogan of socialist revolution and prepared a thesis on the socialist revolution.

By the way, at the beginning of Juche 44(1955) a high-ranking official of the Soviet Communist Party read the contents of the draft thesis that the WPK was going to transform the urban handicraftsmen into socialist workers. He asked with much irony whether it meant to foster the capitalist elements. Some revisionists

spoke ill of the WPK's policy on realizing the agricultural cooperation, saying that it was subjective. They even held that there was no need for the DPRK to have a thesis as the European socialist countries were carrying on the socialist revolution well without such a thesis.

President **Kim Il Sung** rejected their assertions, refuting that nothing was wrong in our publishing a thesis; we would not give up our own way even though others had not done so; and there is no reason that we cannot do what others had not done.

A week later, in April Juche 44(1955), he made public a historic work on the nature and tasks of the Korean revolution, titled Every Effort/or the Country's Reunification and Independence and for Socialist Construction in the Northern Half of the Republic, in which he made clear the tasks to step up the socialist revolution on a full scale in the northern half of the country. He wisely led the struggle for the socialist transformation in urban and rural areas, thus carrying out the historic cause in a matter of 4 to 5 years, a work that took over a decade for others.

Kim Jong Il's steadfast adherence to the independent politics can also find its expression in one of his works, *On the Juche Idea*.

In his work he put forward independence in politics as one of the guiding principles of the Juche idea. He clarified: Without independence in politics it would be impossible to talk about independence at all. Juche in ideology is expressed, above all, by independence in politics. Self-sufficiency in the economy and self-reliance in defence, too, are guaranteed by independence in politics.

In the late 1980s and the early 1990s, too, when socialism collapsed in the former Soviet Union and other Eastern European countries and the wind of "reform" and "perestroika" swept the whole world, he made clear his political faith that he would defend socialism to the end.

He declared once again at the outset of the century: Our independent politics and our independent foreign policy are consistent and unchangeable. We will defend our sovereignty and dignity in whatever situation and in whatever difficulties and

confidently advance along the road we have chosen by ourselves.

With strong political confidence in independence, he steadfastly led the Korean revolution along the road of independence, under the unfurled banner of independence and Songun in the new century.

Even when the hostile forces attempted to find fault with the DPRK in its efforts to launch an artificial satellite clamouring it as a firing of a long-range missile, he did not hesitate to do it, as it was the way to exercising the independent right of the DPRK and building up its national power.

On the day when the artificial satellite Kwangmyongsong No. 2 was successfully launched, **Kim Jong Il** said to the officials in the following vein: The current launch of our satellite is a great victory of the Juche idea and the Songun idea. The independent stand is precisely a truth, which will always emerge victorious. Ours is a cause of justice, so it has been and will be ever-victorious.

“Let us live our own way!”

A collection of world fables contains a story that a sparrow becomes a laughingstock of all while trying to imitate a heron's stride, and another one that a monkey very fond of show is humiliated to shed tears while trying to fly like a hawk. These stories are didactic, telling not to dance to the tune of others but to live in one's own way.

Independence is precisely Juche, and Juche means one's own way. Independence apart from one's own way is nothing but a castle on the sand. It is a truth proven by history that abandoning one's own way leads to the road off lunkeyism and dogmatism.

In December Juche 67(1978) **Kim Jong Il** advanced the slogan “Let us live our own way!” He said: “Let us live our own way!”-this is a strategic slogan put forward today by our Party. Living our own way means thinking and behaving with a mind of our own as required by the Juche idea and solving everything on our own in the interests of our revolution and people.

As in the past, so in those days, too, the Korean people had to carry out gigantic tasks for economic construction under difficult conditions, still standing face to face with the US.

On the morning of the first day of Juche 67(1978), the first year of the Second 7-Year Plan, **Kim Jong Il** put forward a slogan “Let us display more of the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance!” Noting that self-reliance was a traditional slogan the WPK had consistently adhered to in the protracted and arduous revolutionary struggle, he stressed: we should not expect to make a revolution with the help of others but should fulfill the Second 7-Year Plan ahead of schedule by giving full play to the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance, remaining true to the wise leadership of President **Kim Il Sung**.

The slogan “Let us live our own way!” was laid down in the context of the requirement that everything should be solved by the Korean people themselves to

meet their demands.

During the whole period of leading the Korean revolution he encouraged the Korean people to strive with their own ideological viewpoint.

Always live our own way-herein lies a sure guarantee for advancing the Korean revolution victoriously, overcoming manifold difficulties and hardships, he stressed.

He said: Our own way is just the way of Juche type, and nothing is better than this. We cannot follow others' way of life, giving up our own advantageous way subject to the pressure from others. Only when a man puts on a dress tailored to his form can he feel easy to act and be good-looking. But if he abandons his own clothes to put on others', he will feel uncomfortable and awkward. We must live our own way to the letter, pursuing politics, developing the economy and culture and building up the defence power in our own way.

He saw to it that all political lines and policies were worked out in keeping with the aspirations and demands of the Korean people. He led officials to promote the military affairs and economic construction to suit the specific conditions of the country and develop literature and the arts, science and technology, dietary patterns, style of clothes and even the etiquette to meet the Korean people's national feelings and tastes.

He instilled the faith of "Live, struggle and create our own way" deep into the mind of the Korean people, dedicating himself to this end throughout his life.

Early in January Juche 90(2001), too, he emphasized that "Let us live our own way!" was a strategic slogan for us to uphold invariably in the new century as well.

He administered the unique Songun politics and put forward a line of economic construction in the Songun era, its embodiment calling for giving priority to the defence industry while developing light industry and agriculture simultaneously, dynamically pushing forward the buildup of the national defence capabilities.

Credit for the present invincible military strength built up in the DPRK goes to the fact that **Kim Jong Il**, who thought over and solved all problems his own way, gave strong impetus to the drive to implement the line of economic construction in

the Songun era, holding aloft the banner of Songun.

It happened in August Juche 91(2002) when he paid a visit to the Far Eastern Region of the Russian Federation.

When his train was heading for Komsomolsk-na-Amure Station via the border station of Khasan, he asked his accompanying officials about their opinion on his revisit to the Far Eastern Region of Russia in the wake of his official visit to the Russian Federation a year ago.

As a matter of fact, it was true that they were seized with curiosity about his another visit to Russia.

Reading through their thoughts, he said: It is customary in diplomacy for a head of a state to pay a return visit to that of his or her counterpart. But such a custom is not an absolutely unbreakable formula. If the present situation demands and it is favourable to the Korean revolution, there is no need to be wedded to any fixed patterns, including diplomatic or established customs.

He went on to say: I do visit foreign countries for the sake of the Korean revolution, for the consummation of the revolutionary cause of Juche and for the sake of the cause of global independence. I am not tied to any established customs or empty formalities in my foreign visit. When we finish our official visit to the Far Eastern Region of the Russian Federation, they will fully understand the results and validity of our current visit.

Let the world follow us

There are some anecdotes about **Kim Jong Il**'s jacket, his favourite dress.

Clothes are regarded as so inseparable in human life as to say that clothes make the man. So, they are associated with a great number of stories and expressions like "Clothes are wings", "The taste of food depends on its container and the value of a man corresponds to his clothes", and the like.

Entering the 1980s, **Kim Jong Il** began to always put on the jacket.

He would say: Jacket is as good as a combat uniform for me. I like an action-oriented dress, so I would keep putting on this jacket in our times of making a revolution.

He really liked to wear it all the time while providing his on-site guidance, receiving foreign guests and visiting foreign countries.

On one occasion, an official suggested that he get dressed fashionably. He answered: the world fashion should follow us, instead of our following the world fashion.

One day in early September Juche 76(1987), President **Kim Il Sung** said:

Kim Jong Il's jacket is wonderful as it has our own fashion. In the past jacket was one of plain clothes but, since he began to put it on, it has been regarded as a smart suit and became one of fashion garments in the present time.

One day in March Juche 54(1965), **Kim Jong Il** said, **"We should always think in a broad and diversified way, paying due regards to the world, and create things with the universal value of humanity."**

It was about the time when he had started his full-time political activities.

He never allowed himself to flatter others or follow them blindly but strictly adhered to the orbit of independence, his choice.

Taking the track of independence is not as easy as to say. It requires a mental power strong enough to reject foreign pressure and interference and steadfast independent faith. It can be said that not a few countries regard it as an inevitable

fate to give in to domination and intervention of foreign forces and take the road of flunkeyism and dogmatism, just because they lack such a strong mental strength.

That is why they fail to take the road of independence, even though they are eager to follow it.

“Keep your feet firmly planted on this land and look out over the world!”, **“Redouble your efforts to make the great Party and Kim Il Sung’s Korea admired by the world!”** - this was his lofty ideals and rock-firm convictions.

President **Kim Il Sung** in his lifetime would proudly say: I have never seen such a statesman of great self-respect as Comrade **Kim Jong Il**. He always looks at the world with Korea at its centre and deals with the world affairs with our WPK at the centre.

Kim Jong Il found the fundamental driving force and guarantee that enable even a small nation to be a great country in the independent stand and political conviction. He regarded the sense of national dignity based on the spirit of national independence as a precious thing that can be bartered for nothing.

One day over 40 years ago he met an official due to visit other countries.

He confided to the latter as follows: At present we are envious of others, but that kind of feeling will die out in the future. Then with what shall we go out into the world? We should proceed into the world, not with money or any things like others but ideology. Ours are the most correct ideas to guide the revolution and construction and the most revolutionary and scientific outlook of the working class on the world. They are the greatest ideas indicating how to live and struggle as human beings.

In May Juche 98(2009) when the DPRK conducted an underground nuclear test, the US resorted to “arbitrary moves”, taking measures for imposing “sanctions” against it through the United Nations.

At that time the DPRK government branded the UN sanctions against it a plaything of the US “high-handedness”, and declared it null and void. It was a bold decision resulting from **Kim Jong Il**’s strong independent conviction.

In this regard, an American professor expressed his opinion that no country in

the world could be compared to north Korea in the aspect of the desire for independence and the spirit of self-sacrifice for its realization.

The New York Times, which had already introduced **Kim Jong Il** as another great hero produced by Korea in the 1980s, carried in December Juche 85(1996) a full-page article together with his photo, under a headline that **Kim Jong Il** rose up as the lodestar of the 21st century.

Pravda, a Russian newspaper, said in an article that a small country is setting an example of how to defend its national interests in defiance of heavy pressure from the West.

The New York Times gave to the fact that the DPRK is steering the world community to the trend of independence and justice in the “current post-Cold War era”.

3) A new history of benevolent politics

Principle of politics of love and trust

Kim Jong Il defined the benevolent politics, together with Songun politics, as the main political mode of socialism, turning a new page of history in effecting politics of love and trust.

The Korean people called his politics that of love and trust. It was an expression of their confidence in and praise of him who devoted himself for the sake of the people with trust in them.

He said: Our Party is the Mother Party that takes responsible care of the people's destiny, and the politics pursued by our Party is the politics of trust in and love for the people, a benevolent politics.

The word "benevolent politics" has been on everybody's lips, as it was eagerly desired for thousands of years by the masses of the people who formed the world community and made history.

The benevolent politics was administered by President **Kim Il Sung** for the first time in the DPRK and came into fuller bloom by **Kim Jong Il**.

President **Kim Il Sung**, from the first day he had embarked on the road of revolution to the last period of his life, showed all kinds of love and trust to his revolutionary soldiers and people. This served as the motive power for the Korean people to display their unlimited revolutionary zeal and fighting spirit, which consequently made it possible for the Korean revolution to always emerge victorious.

The politics of love for and trust in the people pursued by **Kim Il Sung** throughout his life was brilliantly carried forward by **Kim Jong Il**.

Kim Jong Il said: The love for and trust in the masses of the people are the fundamentals of politics administered by President **Kim Il Sung**. They are the

kernel and foundation of people-centred politics. The love for the people is the cornerstone of socialist politics.

Looking back on the history of politics, the ancient Greece placed the basis of its political theory on morality, the ancient Rome on law and the Europe in the middle ages on theology. In modern ages the political theory was “developed” into that of kings and privileged classes for their ruling, under the signboard of “championing the common people”.

The authors of Marxism-Leninism regarded politics as a means for an economically dominating class to reign over other class and put forward dictatorship and democracy as the main mode of politics.

But **Kim Jong Il**, based on the analysis of all the previous political theories and trends and the historical lessons of the world politics, did not confine the issue of love and trust merely to ethics between people, but combined it with the politics for the sake of people, defining it as the fundamentals principle of socialist politics.

He said that the viewpoint and attitude to the people are the basis of politics and its starting point.

In the 1970s there took place an unfavourable event in a country, where its ruling forces caused discontent among broad sections of the masses while governing their country and, in the long run, they were isolated and rejected by them.

At that time **Kim Jong Il** said to the officials concerning the event: It is necessary to have a clear understanding of one aspect, that is, the political issue, and think over from where politics starts.

He emphasized: Politics is a social function to organize and control the people’s activities in a coordinated way. Therefore, it can be said that the basis of politics is how to regard a man, in other words, broad masses of the people, and which way to lead them. After all, the viewpoint on and attitude to the masses are the basis of politics and its starting point.

It was a clear-cut explanation that the above-said event was due to the absence of correct viewpoint on and attitude to the people.

Noting that man is the most precious and powerful as he is an independent, creative and conscious being and that he is one and only master and transformer of the world, he used to say that nothing is more precious and more powerful than man. Explaining that people are the masters of everything in society who have the most powerful creative ability to transform nature and society, he affirmed that if there is any almighty being in this world, it is none other than the masses of the people.

For this reason, he initiated a slogan “Let’s build a new society with trust and love!” and put forward a proposition “Revolution is the greatest love for people”, thoroughly applying it into his political practice. The current appearance of socialist Korea of Juche, in which the whole country is politically stable and all the people are closely united and which is advancing in line with its ideals and requirements, gives ample proof of the validity of **Kim Jong Il**’s political principle of love and trust.

There is no doubt that the value and vitality of the political principle will be further verified in the future, too.

Fatherly leader for the people

*We call him our father, the great General
We call him our mother, the great General.
As his is the embrace of life for all people,
General **Kim Jong Il** is the dearest in this world.*

...

It is a nationwide hymn which can be heard only in the DPRK which has formed a large harmonious family.

A political leader in a socialist country must be an able man. But he should, first of all, have affection toward the people as his nature and take responsible care of their life by means of high virtue. This was a cherished opinion of **Kim Jong Il**.

He said that one can by no means become a true leader and enjoy support and respect from the people as he takes the top position of a party and that one can never earn trust from the people by means of political power and deceptive policy.

Carrying forward the lofty idea of President **Kim Il Sung** who pursued the benevolent politics to link the people with their leader as close as blood relations, he defined the benevolent politics as the main political mode of socialism and embodied it thoroughly. He regarded the devoted service to the people as his high-minded duty.

On one occasion, a long-time confidant of **Kim Jong Il** collected his instructions for the sake of the people given in different times and at different places in order to formulate his outlook on the people.

It read: His greatest desire is to build a paradise for the people where their independence is fully guaranteed. He finds his greatest pleasure in the people's happiness. His bitterest worry is the people's misery. He loses his temper at the encroachment upon the people's dignity and interests. His motto is "We serve the people!"

Later, after reading this collection, President **Kim Il Sung** said that

Kim Jong Il's unlimited love for the people comes from his lofty viewpoint of the people that believes in them as in heaven, respects them as teachers, shares pleasure and sorrow with them and casts in his fortune with them.

Kim Jong Il said: It is the policy of our Party, the WPK, and the core of my human philosophy to take responsibility for the people, bring them up, take care of them and put them forward in society, from the cradle to the grave, and make them enjoy an eternal life even after death by guaranteeing their political integrity.

His strong sense of responsibility for the destiny of the people was fully manifested in the fact that he creditably defended the destiny of his country and people by employing Songun politics.

He continued his long journey of Songun without a break to this end. In this sense, it is quite right for the Korean people to say Songun politics is precisely the benevolent politics.

Kim Jong Il saw to it that the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery, the Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery and other monuments to anti-Japanese martyrs were built in different parts of the country so as to provide eternal life for the revolutionary soldiers who had performed distinguished feats for the country and the people. Such stories are widely on the lips of the Korean people as unforgettable anecdotes about his noble virtue.

One summer day in Juche 60(1971) **Kim Jong Il** directed a rehearsal performance of the revolutionary opera The Sea of Blood. Recollecting the scene of the heroine of the opera shedding tears for not feeding up her children, he said: The mother in The Sea of Blood sings of her painful feelings for her failure to feed up her loving children even with mixed-grain porridge. Hearing the song, I thought that the mother reflected my heartbroken feeling for not providing our people with enough meat.

And he stressed that officials should think not only of the past but of the present day whenever hearing the song, and that they should think over whether they are doing a good job in order to feed and dress the people well as their faithful servants.

In the mid-1990s when the DPRK was experiencing trying ordeals while making the “Arduous March” and forced march, he told the officials that the bottleneck in the present people’s living was the food problem and, therefore, it was most urgent to solve the food problem at the earliest possible date. He took measures to decisively increase grain production by doing farming properly and boost the output of primary consumer goods.

One day in mid-December of Juche 84(1995) he was informed of the fact that orphanages were having troubles in the upbringing of children as they were not provided with sufficient amounts of coal and foodstuffs because of difficult economic situation of the country. That night he spent a sleepless night, worrying about the orphaned children. Noting that he felt heartbroken after reading the data, he instructed to immediately inquire into the conditions of orphanages in all provinces. In February Juche 85(1996) he took special steps to establish a system of supplying the orphanages across the country with necessary materials, including staple and nutritional foods and clothes, and carry it out without any reservation.

Whenever he was reported about the people who were taking care of orphaned children on his way to give on-site guidance, he was so pleased that he put them forward as patriots.

One September day in Juche 91(2002) he said: What is weighing heavily on my mind is the failure to provide affluent life to our people who are faithfully supporting the leadership of the Party even though they are suffering from difficult living conditions. So, I always make all-out efforts to find the way to enable our people to lead a well-off and civilized life to their heart’s content as early as possible.

As he was such a leader of the people, he made sure, in order to solve the problem of food and clothing, that heavy state investment was made in reviving the February 8 Vinalon Complex that had been out of operation in the period of the “Arduous March” and forced march. In February Juche 99(2010) he visited the complex at the news that it started the production of vinalon. Two days later he dropped in at the complex again to feast his eyes on the cascades of vinalon. On his

third visit to the complex in October Juche 100(2011), he said that the complex was a place dear to his heart.

He was so concerned about improving the people's standard of living that he visited time and again South Hamgyong Province with many industrial establishments related to the betterment of the people's living in the last period of his life in Juche 100(2011).

A large number of livestock farms, basic foodstuff factories, fruit farms and public service centres, including Okryu Restaurant and Chongryu Restaurant, built in different parts of the DPRK are associated with his loving care. In order to feed up the Korean people with rare and expensive dishes to their heart's contents he opened up a new history of breeding sturgeon, terrapin, eel and salmon. He initiated a plan to build dwelling houses in Mansudae Street, Haebangsan Street and Mansudae area and other gigantic construction projects in the capital city of Pyongyang.

A top-level delegation of the European Union on a visit to the DPRK in Juche 90(2001) was received by **Kim Jong Il**. The members of the delegation asked him to which sector his country was going to give priority in the future.

He answered that priority would be given to two sectors, one to education and the other to the mining industry.

Upon hearing his answer, they applauded with their thumbs up, expressing their admiration for him who, with foresightedness, was administering the most correct politics of independence to achieve the prosperity of his country by developing its own talents and utilizing its own natural resources.

It was his consistent standpoint that only when the rising generations are brought up well can the nation's future be guaranteed and that the prosperity of a country is decided by the number of talents.

Thanks to his loving care, a modern e-library and a swimming pool were built at **Kim Il Sung** University, and the environment and conditions for education were steadily improved in all primary and secondary schools and universities. Camping sites built in different parts with scenic beauties await the schoolchildren all the

seasons. The vans carrying soy bean milk run along the streets for the children and pupils in the capital city. In order to provide the people with better conditions for their cultural and emotional life, various kinds of establishments including the Pyongyang Grand Theatre, the Moranbong Theatre, the State Theatre, the East Pyongyang Grand Theatre, the Taedongmun Cinema and the Central Zoo were reconstructed and refurbished with excellent facilities. Mt. Myohyang, Mt. Chilbo, Mt. Kuwol, Mt. Jongbang, Mt. Ryongak and other picturesque mountains have been turned into more convenient tourist spots for the working people. Holiday inns, resorts, and recuperation camps in different parts of the country provide better conditions for the working people's recreational life and medical treatment.

In December Juche 100(2011) when the DPRK was in a period of mourning for the demise of **Kim Jong Il**, Chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission, something unexpected happened in the capital city of Pyongyang. All the families were supplied with various fishes at different shops. It was a scene produced by his benevolent politics that the grief-stricken citizens with their eyes swollen and lips chapped were supplied with fresh herring and pollack.

In November, a month before he passed away and the season for catching sailfin sandfish, he had taken measures to provide the people with the fish, taking into consideration its amount needed for the capital citizens and even calculating the average provision of the fish per head. On December 16, just the day before his passing, he made arrangements for another provision of fish to the citizens in the capital city.

As trees keep the imprint of year rings reflecting the passage of time, so people will bear their leader's loving care deep in mind. It holds true for the Korean people who will never forget **Kim Jong Il**'s complete devotion to the people.

Turning the Party and state into servants of people

A prerequisite for the politics of love and trust, the benevolent politics, in a socialist society is to make the Party and the state serve the people faithfully. It was **Kim Jong Il**'s unshakable opinion and a principled stand he held fast to in the building of the Party and the state.

If a party or state fails to enjoy the people's support and takes no root in their mind, it is bound to be deserted or given the cold shoulder by the people.

Taking into account the significance and importance of making the Party and the state serve the people, **Kim Jong Il** worked hard to the end from his early days of leading the Korean revolution. It was his immovable creed that in a people-centered society where the masses are the masters of everything and everything serves them, the party and the state must be there for the sake of people and therefore it is necessary to turn the party and the state into servants of the people in every respect.

Kim Jong Il, who creditably carried on the President's idea of building the party and the state, said, **"The essence of a working class party and a socialist government is, first of all, that they are the servants of people. ... Therein lies the essence and superiority of the party and government of the working class, fundamentally different from those of the exploiting class."** Only when the working class party and socialist government adhere firmly to the stand that they are the servants of the people, can they work for the happiness of the people, and wage the class struggle and exercise their political power properly in conformity with the independent demands of the masses of people - this was his standpoint.

He regarded it as the overriding principle of the Party and the state's activities to improve the people's welfare and put forward the slogan "We serve the people!" as an important one to be held fast to by the Party and the state.

In particular, he recognized the building of the Party into a motherly party as a prerequisite for turning all state organs and public organizations into the servants of

the people. He said that just like a mother loves her child deeper and takes warm care of it, the Party should be a true guide and guardian of the people so as to bear responsibility for the latter's fate and take scrupulous care of them.

From the viewpoint that for the Party and the people's government to fulfill their mission and role as the servants of the people, the officials should employ proper method and style of work, he constantly educated the officials in the spirit of boundless love for and faithful service to the people. He urged the officials to think always of the people's interests first in the lofty spirit of love for people and work devotedly for the people in the interests of them, asserting, **“The masses' support for and trust in the Party and the people's government depends a great deal on the officials' method and style of work.”**

The following happened one March day of Juche 95(2006), when **Kim Jong Il** visited the northern region of the country to inspect the construction site of the Samsu Power Station. That day he asked about the evacuation of the households from the area that would be submerged. As a matter of fact, he had traveled a long distance to the still cold site to acquaint himself with the matter rather than the construction itself. Saying that he had heard the number of the households to be evacuated was over 4 900, he estimated the total number of the residents at 15 000 by calculating that each household had 3 members. It had to be remembered that the living conditions of the residents to be evacuated was far more important than the production of several ten thousands KW of electricity, he said and stressed the need to solve the problem of life for the residents not by words but by deeds. He then said, **“The base of socialism is the people. Only when you rely on them and enjoy their support, can you defend socialism. In this sense, it is by no means a small matter to build dwellings for the people to be evacuated.”**

And he suggested that an enlarged meeting of the Executive Committee of the Ryanggang Provincial Committee of the WPK should be held to discuss the matter of building homes for the residents to be evacuated and take necessary measures and that the Central Committee of the Party and the Provincial Party Committee should have a joint meeting concerning this urgent matter. As a result, modern

houses for the residents were built in no more than some months, and each of the households was provided with various kinds of furniture and daily necessities.

Kim Jong Il inspired the Party and government officials to live and work for the people hard enough to be called with the term of endearment “our”. During his constant frontline inspection and on-site guidance to different sectors of the national economy, he never neglected the term “our” the rank-and-file soldiers and ordinary people added to their calling of their senior officials. He regarded the calling word “our” as an important criterion to decide whether the officials were possessed of the revolutionary and popular method of work as required by the times, and those called along with the word “our” as his revolutionary comrades-in-arms and genuine friends and true servants of the people.

“The word ‘our’ is a very good word with a profound meaning. ... The calling word ‘our’ is neither a government designation nor an honorary title, but it is a highest title and Praise by soldiers and ordinary people for the officials who devote everything for their sake. It is also a pronoun reflecting the respect, affection, confidence and intimate feeling towards the officials faithful to the people,” he said while talking with the leading officials of the Central Committee of the WPK on the theme of *Officials Should Be Devoted Servants of the People* on October 28, Juche 92(2003).

He used to say: An official can be respected and loved by the people when he works hard and brings about good results in the interests of the people from the standpoint that he should work hard and the people enjoy happiness. Officials must work on to implement the Party’s policies even if they have less sleep and undergo more hardships than others, and follow the way of work of the Korean People’s Army so as to solve the problems of food, clothing and housing for the people.

One May day in Juche 83(1994) he instructed that officials should become true servants of the people who work devotedly for the latter in the spirit of devotedly serving them, warning that officials could be separate from the people like drops of oil floating on water if they encroached upon the interests of the people by wielding authority. In that case, he continued, the people would not believe in the

validity of the WPK's policies and the superiority of the Korean-style socialism, and the Party could fail to get support from the masses. His instructions intended to make the officials qualified for the calling word "our",

True to his instructions, all the officials strove to possess the revolutionary way and populist style of work, many of whom came to be held in affection by the people while being called along with the word "our".

Kim Jong Il asserted, **"In future, too, we will try to fully develop the Party and the people's government into the servants of the people, and by means of this will complete the people's independent cause to the end."**

4) A Miraculous Songun Politics of Kim Jong Il

At the crossroads of history

Kim Jong Il's fame as a veteran statesman of the modern times became greater along with the Songun politics, the brainchild of **Kim Jong Il** who put forward it as the main mode of politics to be constantly pursued.

The Songun politics was established towards the close of the 20th century as the most scientific and liable mode of politics for the countries and nations aspiring after independence to hold fast to. It is one of the great exploits of **Kim Jong Il** in the history of world politics.

As long as 5,000 years have elapsed since the beginning of the state political history. The long period witnessed countless politicians and political theoreticians but not a politician who formulated and systematized his or her own political theory and applied it perfectly in the political practice in his or her own lifetime.

On the stroke of midnight on December 31, Juche 83(1994), **Kim Jong Il** was sitting at his office table after returning from his visit to the then Kumsusan Memorial Palace (Kumsusan Palace of the Sun at present) to pay tribute to President **Kim Il Sung** lying in state there. He wrote one word after another, “**We have seen out 1994 in tears and blood and greeted the new year.**” After a while in deep thought he continued to write with force, “**Let all of us work energetically, single-mindedly and with one purpose to make our country, our motherland, ever more prosperous as befits the soldiers and devoted followers of the great leader. January 1, 1995 Kim Jong Il**”. It was his personal New Year's note to the Korean people. And he set off for a sub-unit of the Korean People's Army.

His inspection of the KPA sub-unit in the first morning of that year after seeing out the previous year in tears and blood was not an ordinary army inspection of the Supreme Commander.

At the time the Korean people were at the crossroads of their fate. They had suffered great grief at the great national loss. The socialist market system was dismantled after the collapse of socialism in the former Soviet Union and East European countries. The US and its followers imposed an economic blockade on the DPRK, to bring its economy to the most adverse conditions. On top of this, consecutive natural calamities occurred in the country. As was commented by others, it was an ordeal unprecedented in history.

At this time of hardship **Kim Jong Il** felt heavier and more complicated in mind than anybody else. Should we take measures of begging others for a band-aid solution to the economic recession or try to defend the national dignity to the very end though in such difficult conditions? He had to make an extraordinary political decision for the destiny of the people and the socialist Korea President **Kim Il Sung** left to him.

Then he asserted, **“The Songun politics is the key of solution to the serious problem of whether to become independent people and guards or to become colonial slaves of imperialism again.”**

With this conviction and will, he started a new history of all-round realization of the Songun politics. In the first evening of that year after his inspection of the KPA sub-unit he told his entourage that he was going to push ahead with the Korean revolution to the last by means of the army.

Songun, chosen by **Kim Jong Il**, was a truth and science.

What was dominating the world in the late 20th century was the haughty high-handedness and the logic of strong arm of the United States. It was just at the time that without power, even an independent sovereign state was reduced to colonial slavery overnight and that there was nowhere one could ask sympathy for one's sad plight from even if one suffered indiscriminate air raid and missile strike. The only way to survive and win was to meet high-handedness and arbitrariness with force, with arms.

The following history proved how reasonable and sensible **Kim Jong Il's** political decision was. His choice of the road of Songun assured the victory of

socialism, defended the independent dignity and rights of the Korean people and guaranteed the springboard for the building of a prosperous powerful nation.

Kim Jong Il had determined to embark on the long journey of Songun just because he believed in its truthfulness and validity, and trusted the revolutionary army, his comrades, the people, and himself. At the historic crossroads that required a big decision in relation to the fate of the country and the people, it was not easy for anyone to choose the road of Songun.

Trust was needed in determining to establish the Songun politics in an all-round way despite the manifold economical difficulties.

Basing on his firm trust in the Korean people and the army who had followed only their leader all the time, he did not hesitate to choose the road of Songun.

One spring day during the “Arduous March”, **Kim Jong Il** stopped his car while crossing over a pass on the way to a KPA unit.

Green grass was coming out along both sides of the road at that time.

He got off the car and asked his entourage whether they knew what the grass was. And he said, in a hoarse voice, the people were overcoming food shortage at that time, eating gruel mixed with that grass.

After looking at the sky for a while, he said with deep emotion, **“It grieves me worst to think of it. You know what our people are like. I am really worried that I fail to feed them fully. They, however, will all understand why I am continuing to visit units of the KPA, and they will absolutely support me.”**

This is how he began to establish the Songun politics he had chosen in an all-round way.

At that time, however, the world people could not imagine what miracles the Songun politics he determined to administer at the, historic crossroads would bring to Korea in the future.

Long Journey of Songun

The long journey of Songun **Kim Jong Il** had embarked on was the one of hard struggle which led to the miraculous victory of Korea.

The Korean people and army had to defend their socialism against the US-led imperialist allied forces' maneuvers to stifle their country.

That's why the inspection car of **Kim Jong Il** which had started off in the snow in the first morning of Juche 84(1995) went from the frontline to a small islet far away from the land, leaving unforgettable traces of Songun leadership.

The stories associated with those days are too many to be described in words.

The following data, however, are enough to help you realize how he continued his long journey of Songun.

On February 27, Juche 85(1996) he went up Height 351 in the east of the front, despite the rugged path to visit a post there which is only 1 200 meters away from the enemy's emplacement of recoilless guns thus encouraging the soldiers there. On March 18 that year he inspected the Taedoksan Post in the west of the front. Two days later, he inspected a unit around Mt. Osong in the middle of the front. And while he visited the command of a unit in the west of the front on April 25 and a defence unit on the east coast on June 3. it was really an endless tour of inspection from east to west and to middle and east again.

It happened on the morning of November 23, Juche 85(1996) when he was on the way to Cho Islet, the gateway of the Korean West Sea.

That day the sea was raging. Contrary to the weather forecast, the wind velocity was about 10meters per second with ever-increasing bitter wind. The waves were rising more than 2 meters high.

The Cho Islet is an isolated one far away from the land. He had to sail across that long rough seaway in a small speedboat.

At the objection of his entourage, he said they had never had a smooth sailing, and resolutely boarded the boat. It was at the time that the attendant cameramen

had their equipment damaged by the rough storms and that the sentries on the islet shouted, trying to dissuade him from coming across the rough sea even though they were eager to meet him.

He even risked himself to inspect Panmunjom, 10 metres away from the enemy's post, and he climbed up Mt. Osong where the observation post in middle of the front was situated, despite the spattering mud even by pushing his sliding car with his own shoulder around a hundred turns of the cliff path, washed and sunken by heavy rain. One day he traveled about 260 miles, inspecting KPA units in the east of the front.

During the long journey of Songun, he visited a CNC machine tool manufacturing base, the factories and enterprises which produce Juche iron, Juche fertilizer and Juche fibre and the land realignment sites across the country as well.

During journey, he used to have a short and uncomfortable sleep in his inspection car or train and have a frugal meal, and sometimes he shared a bowl of gruel with his entourage.

The significance of his long journey of Songun lay not merely in overcoming severe trials.

Over the period he determined to establish the Songun politics in an all-round way and did creditably step by step. Herein lay the historic significance of his long journey of Songun, and it fully testified to his outstanding political ability.

At the time, he did not hasten to proclaim his politics as the Songun politics.

Instead, he regarded it as the first requisite for the Songun politics to strengthen the KPA and put primary efforts in developing the army into the pillar, the main force, of the Korean revolution.

He inspected KPA units more frequently than civilian entities and led the soldiers to fully display their revolutionary soldier spirit in the socialist construction as well as in national defence. Under his Songun leadership, the spirit of defending their leader with their lives came to pervade the KPA and the entire army was put on the basis of a revolutionary command system and military discipline whereby to act as one as ordered by its Supreme Commander. And great

progress was made in combat training and armed equipment so that the KPA developed into all invincible army.

It was one of his greatest achievements in implementing the Songun politics that strengthened and developed the KPA into the foremost pillar of the Songun politics and the main force of the revolution. No wonder that the foreign press reported: All aspects of north Korea today are based on Supreme Commander **Kim Jong Il**'s unique communist hard-line politics with the army as the only center. The army is not only the main force to maintain the country's socialist political entity, but also literally the shock brigade and hard-core unit of the Supreme Commander in evercoming all the economic difficulties the country has encountered.

Kim Jong Il further consolidated the great army-people unity by bringing about unity in the idea and the way of struggle between the army and the people.

He regarded the great unity of the army and the people as the firm foundation of socialism in Korea and the single-hearted unity as one of the three forces in implementing the Songun politics.|

He developed the unity and cohesion of the Korean army and people with a long history and tradition into the great army-people unity with perfect harmony in their ideological and spiritual traits and way of struggle based on the revolutionary soldier spirit, and strengthened and developed the driving force of the Songun politics.. as required by the new era.

This testifies to **Kim Jong Il**'s greatness as an outstanding statesman.

While translating his ideal of Songun politics into reality, he did not hasten to proclaim his as the Songun politics because he always attached importance to practice.

The First Session of the Tenth Supreme People's Assembly held in Pyongyang on September 5, Juche 87(1998), unanimously adopted the new Socialist Constitution which would serve as a reliable legal guarantee for the effectuation of Songun politics,

According to the new Constitution, the state control system of the DPRK is a new state leadership system whereby to hold fast to the national defence as the

most important of state affairs to ensure the prosperity of the country, the happiness of the people and the victorious advance of the Korean revolution, and as the lifeline for the victory of the Korean revolution and the destiny of the Korean nation.

The journey of Songun of **Kim Jong Il** who adhered to Songun as the lifeline for the Korean revolution and as the main mode of socialist politics will lead the Korean revolution to the ultimate victory as it is being carried on with by another great brilliant commander of Songun.

The collapsed “*Theory of Collapse*”

A great leader can make a small country great and powerful. This is the truth the Korean army and people keenly realized under the Songun politics of **Kim Jong Il**.

Kim Jong Il said, “**The Songun politics of our Party is invincible politics verified through severe trials of history, and an almighty sword for the victory of revolution.**”

18 years ago when President **Kim Il Sung** passed away and the US-led imperialist allied forces were undertaking offensives to stifle the DPRK, all the world people were watching the situation in the DPRK. Some wished a miracle would happen in the DPRK and others dreamed the DPRK would collapse.

Today, however, they are marveling at the miracles brought about by the Songun politics, saying, “The Songun politics is the invincible politics that brings victory after victory in confrontation with imperialism externally, and internally an almighty sword that ensures a country prosperity. The reality shows that only the politics that attaches importance to the army makes it possible to consolidate and continuously develop the political, military and economical foundations of a socialist country.” “The Songun revolutionary leadership achievements of **Kim Jong Il** will add a brilliant page to human history.”

Many countries that previously gave priority to the economy are now heading for giving priority to military affairs after the Songun politics of the DPRK.

Meanwhile, VOA reported to the effect that the DPRK is the only country which would bury tens of thousands of lives in the heart of the US and make a breakthrough into the barrier of the US across the world by dint of the Songun politics and which would prosper by dint of the politics. It is a tragedy of Washington that it is impossible to estimate or measure the gigantic width and infinite depth of the power generated by **Kim Jong Il**’s Songun politics, the VOA added.

About 20 years ago, the US and the south Korean puppets advanced the ‘theory

of early collapse of the DPRK' and began to wait for the moment of its collapse while prattling that it would collapse 3 days or 3 months later at the earliest or 3 years later at the furthest. However, that 3-year timetable has already repeated several times now.

On June 10, Juche 99(2000), **Kim Jong Il** said: In the early days of the “Arduous March” the enemies had resorted to all sorts of moves to undermine the DPRK from within, clamoring that the DPRK would not exist long, but in vain. Then they set up the “theory of soft-landing”, but things did not go as they wished. And now they have put up the “theory of maintaining system”.

And he added: The fact that the enemies who talked about the “theory of collapse” has now put up the “theory of maintaining system” shows that they themselves have acknowledged that they cannot make us collapse. This means a great victory of our Party’s Songun politics.

Kim Jong Il consolidated the ideological base of his country by putting great efforts in the ideological work to cope with, the ideological and cultural poisoning by the enemies.

His theory was that the destruction of the ideological base makes even tremendous economic and military power useless, and causes the collapse of socialist system, and that there is a limit of the military strike power but no limit to that of ideology which is stronger than an atomic bomb.

Kim Jong Il implanted in the hearts of the Korean army and people the faith that one who relies on one’s own strength will survive, and the sanguine hope that a long march of hardships will lead to greater happiness.

So the Korean army and people came to regard the spirit of self-reliance as their lifeblood and became optimists who go the thorny path cheerfully while they were working in their workplace, eat substitute food like grass roots and bark of the trees.

In the course of this, the spiritual strength of the Korean army and people grew stronger and all of them turned out to lay a springboard for the building of a prosperous and powerful nation with the firm determination to carry out the

revolution without fail.

It was a decisive factor in thoroughly smashing the “theory of collapse” of the enemies that **Kim Jong Il** built a powerful military force by devoting the utmost attention to the strengthening of defence capabilities with the faith that military strength immediately means the national power and decides the fate of a country and People.

“Only a strong army can defend the party and government and ensure the people a happy life.” With this faith, he built up the KPA into an army of strong ideology and faith and improved its military equipment.

Thinking that the only way for his country to survive the increasing economic blockade by the US and its satellite countries was to enhance the independence of its economy and raise its economic and technical competitive power to match others’, he found the key to success in developing science and technology of the country onto a cutting edge level in making the machine-building industry modern and IT-based.

He already put forward the task of developing CNC machine tools of Korean style when he had declared the all-round beginning of Songun politics. Over the ten-odd years the country could get the knack of CNC technology under his scrupulous guidance.

To increase the independence of the national economy to the maximum, he led the struggle to make the metallurgical industry, the chemical industry and all other fields of the national economy independent.

As a result, there was a drive to increase independence across the country, even in small-scale grasswork production cooperatives and a Koryo medicine factory in Jagang Province as well as at iron and steel production bases such as Songgang, Kangson and Hwangchol, the chemical industry bases in Namhung and Hungnam and mines in Komdok, Taehung and Jaeryong.

So a new era of Juche iron production started, and vinalon, Juche fibre, and Juche fertilizer began to be mass-produced.

Large-size hydroelectric power plants like the Huichon Power Station and lots

of medium- and small-size hydroelectric power plants were built distinctively to suit the actual conditions of their, localities. Fruit farms like the Taedonggang Combined Fruit Farm, stockbreeding and fish farms appeared, and many successes were achieved such as that in breeding sturgeons.

His Songun politics also ushered in a new era of “by our nation itself” for independent reunification of Korea and brought about great successes in the development of foreign relations.

Friendly relations with China and Russia were further improved and the number of countries wanting to have good-neighbourly relations with the DPRK rapidly increased. Many West European countries, too, established diplomatic relations with the country.

For 7 years alone after the all-round beginning of Songun politics, over 20 countries established or re-established diplomatic relations with it.

On the establishments, the Western media commented as “a reflection of their wrong past” and “it means that the blockade pursued by the US with huge efforts seems cracking”. And they praised that Songun politics was a miraculous mode of politics which was unprecedented in the history of politics.

5) Outstanding art of leading the masses

Mental exertions are stronger than nuclear weapons

Kim Jong Il was an outstanding statesman with regard to the art of leading the masses.

The ability and skills of a political leader find expression mainly in how he manages and mobilizes the people. Therefore it is said that leadership of the masses is the cream of the arts and the smart leader of the masses is praised as an outstanding and excellent statesman.

At the core of **Kim Jong Il**'s art of leadership lay his ability to enlist the people's spiritual exertions which he regarded as the most powerful weapon.

He saw the spirit of the masses as one of the basic factors in deciding power and dignity of a nation.

Kim Jong Il said, "Great spiritual exertions of the masses are the foremost national treasure that is beyond comparison and the most powerful weapon, which is even stronger than nuclear weapon."

Earlier they believed that the criteria of national power are usually military capabilities, economic potentials, the size of the territory and the scope of strategic resources.

Kim Jong Il, however, maintained that what is more important in the respect is the political and ideological preparedness of the nation - their spiritual strength.

From the standpoint he firmly believed that a man with strong spirit can create whatever he wants from scratch and that when supported by the masses equipped with a daring spirit, one can do any formidable task.

Appreciating the spiritual strength of the masses as the most powerful means for the development of a socialist society since it is the society that relies on the ideological merit, that is, mental exertions of the masses who are the master of the

socialist society, the Korean leader gave priority to the ideological work to cultivate strong spirit in the mind of the Korean soldiers and people.

On the Juche Idea, On Some Problems of Education in the Juche Idea, Giving Priority to Ideological Work Is Essential for Accomplishing Socialism and other works of his are clear signs of his awareness of, and effort for, development of spiritual preparedness of the masses.

In Juche 83(1994) when the whole country was in great sorrow over President **Kim Il Sung**'s passing away, **Kim Jong Il** published the immortal classic work *Socialism is a Science* which provides a scientific proof of the truthfulness of socialism and the inevitability of its victory. And while administering Songun politics, he had stoutly armed all the Korean military and civilians with the Juche idea and the Songun idea by means of many classic works he wrote in the years.

His prowess at utilizing spiritual exertion as the most powerful weapon became evident during the time of the "Arduous March" and the forced march when he got through the trials by dint of the ethos of the time including the revolutionary soldier spirit and the Kanggye spirit.

At that time, in order to defend the country and overcome the harsh difficulties that came from the moves of the USA and its vassal states that aimed at stifling the DPRK, he urged officials not to seek hibernation but to make greater spiritual exertions than ever before, thus leading the "Arduous March" and the forced march to victory.

The revolutionary soldier spirit, the great spirit of the times, were created by the KPA and the Kanggye spirit by the people in Jagang Province in the struggle to learn after his spirit. The revolutionary soldier spirit comprises the readiness to defend the national leader at the cost of one's life and regarding his orders and instructions as an absolute and unconditional must, and the revolutionary idea of self-reliance, the spirit of mass heroism and self-sacrifice and the resolution to defend socialism. Uncommon was the method of **Kim Jong Il**'s leadership in giving play to the spiritual strength of the Korean people.

Political work is one of the most effective methods in giving full play to the

spiritual strength of the masses as it is the most valuable treasure of a nation, the weapon more powerful than an atomic bomb - this was his viewpoint.

In leading the Korean revolution he held fast to the method of stirring enthusiasm of the masses by political activities.

Typical instances were observed in the 70-day campaign in the 1970s and the effort to create the speed of the 1980s. Distinctive were his activities in Juche 98(2009) when he gave energetic guidance to the drive to bring about a new upsurge in the construction of a prosperous and powerful nation.

Juche 98(2009) was a decisive year in the Korean people's struggle to accomplish the cause of a prosperous and powerful nation.

Having kindled the torch of a new revolutionary at the Chollima Steel Complex in December Juche 97(2008) while inspecting it, **Kim Jong Il** indicated the way of the new year's advance by means of the joint editorial of the nation's leading newspapers, and then made sure that a political and ideological offensive was carried out to arise all the Korean people to the 150-day campaign. What was the most significant was that he published a writing in June Juche 98(2009) in which he encouraged the people to stoke up the flames of a revolutionary upsurge on all fronts of a thriving nation building by means of the spiritual merit of the great **Kim Il Sung**'s nation.

Teams of able officials and groups of artistic performers from national art troupes were dispatched to production and construction sites to make a success of the 150-day campaign and the 100-day campaign.

The firework displays were held on the occasions of the Day of the Sun, May Day and the founding anniversary of the WPK, encouraging the Korean army and people in their efforts to build a thriving nation.

In this context, the workers of the Chollima Steel Complex, the bearer of the torch of a new revolutionary upsurge, successfully fulfilled their task for January and then carried out their task for February by 1.3 times. Meanwhile, the scientist succeeded in the launch of the second artificial satellite and the second underground nuclear test and put the CNC technology on a higher level of

development.

The Huichon Speed, a new Chollima speed, was also created in the period of the 150-day campaign and the 100-day campaign.

It was not by accident that foreign media, referring to the achievements the Korean people, reported that the model of the Chairman of the National Defence Commission **Kim Jong Il**'s exemplary conduct kindled burning in the hearts of the Korean people and that the plan of building a thriving nation was being accelerated at an enormous speed.

One of the effective means **Kim Jong Il** adopted to give full play to the spiritual merit of the Korean army and people was music which instilled in them confidence in their sure victory and optimism about the future.

The song symbolizes revolutionary optimism as well as victorious revolution - this was one of his maxims.

True to the maxim, he made sure that the People's Army conducted artistic activities extensively and even organized artistic festivals of servicemen's wives thus filling the whole society with revolutionary optimism.

At the close of his life he saw the 35th soldiers' artistic festival and highly appreciated it. At the time he said encouragingly that all the Korean people should learn from the soldiers' revolutionary spirit of optimism and cheerful way of life and, with the spirit, accelerate the construction of a thriving nation forcefully.

Just a look at the reality of the DPRK will be enough to understand that-the whole society, not only the army, is filled with the sound of music and dance, making a steadfast march toward a bright future.

Once in the 1980s, a foreign figure on a visit to the DPRK said, "I can see the whole country is swept with burning enthusiasm. The people are all working in high spirit and morale. What is the source of the miraculous power which ensures the creation of a new construction-speed in the 1980s and the erections of the world-famous West Sea Barrage across the sea and many other monumental buildings? It is none other than the outstanding leadership of His Excellency **Kim Jong Il** who has united the popular masses and mobilizes them for a certain

purpose by means of political work.”

That’s an old story now in the DPRK. The nation’s intensity and force of political and ideological offensive has attained a higher level under the wise leadership of **Kim Jong Il**.

Art of making and spreading fire

One of the distinctive qualities of **Kim Jong Il**'s art of popular leadership was to make a fire and spread it swiftly across the country.

Making a fire means the process of setting an example and getting experience through direct guidance to a unit. Spreading the fire means the one of expanding the positive example and experience to all units quickly. In a nutshell, it is an intelligent practice of setting an example and making it general practice.

Kim Jong Il acquired the method of leadership while making deep studies of the revolutionary career of President **Kim Il Sung**. While applying it after he began to work at the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, he was clearly convinced of the advantages of the method.

He improved the ideological work of the WPK by creating an example in the sector of culture and arts and making it be learned nationwide; he turned the whole country into a school of revolutionary tradition by making an example through the laying-out of the Wangjaesan Revolutionary Site and the Samjiyon Revolutionary Battle Site and encouraging the nation to follow it; and he carried out the campaign of putting the national economy on the automation basis by making a model at the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex and encouraging other factories to rebuild themselves after the model.

Especially, over the last 10-odd years including the time of the "Arduous March" and forced march, he relied on the innovative method more securely in all aspects of building a prosperous and powerful nation.

One of the distinctive points about his leading method is that he took the initiative in setting an exemplary unit and pushed ahead with the task.

Kim Jong Il said, "Only when we choose the right object for an exemplary unit and give correct guidance to it, can we make sure that it is a true model and displays its great vitality."

He used to choose the unit of example on a unique principle. He set an example

at the unit which could possibly have a great influence on other units in spite of its unfavorable condition.

Maintaining that the People's Army should be not only the stalwart defender of the country but also the leader of the people that implants revolutionary ideas and fighting spirit in the mid of people, he set the army as an example in constructing an economic power and developing a new culture of the era as well as in creating the spirit of the times and elevating the fighting morale and manner of work.

It was because he decided the army could be a positive example of the times for its revolutionary spirit, organization and discipline though it is in unfavourable conditions. As such, it could have great influence on all sectors of society.

It was for the same reason that when Jagang Province was chosen as a model in changing the "Arduous March" and the force march over to the march toward a paradise, that Kangwon Province, with a weak economic foundation, was made a model in the nationwide land realignment project and the large-scale hydroelectric power plant construction.

In fact, the mountainous Jagang Province was an economically handicapped region with relatively small acreage of farmland and difficult traffic condition. The inhabitants in the province had been undergoing greater difficulties than those in other provinces since the beginning of the "Arduous March".

However, in order to overcome those difficulties, **Kim Jong Il** decided to set an example in the province in forcing the way through manifold ordeals.

Jagang Province was a historic place associated with the revolutionary activities of President **Kim Il Sung** and his family members and relatives, so the local people were in laudable frame of mind in ideological and mental point of view, and their fighting spirit and enthusiasm were enormous. And what was noteworthy was that there were bases of the machine industry, the core of the self-supporting economy, which were established by President **Kim Il Sung** during the Korean war for the victorious future.

Therefore, **Kim Jong Il** judged that since it had revolutionary people and a large force of reliable workers anything, if created there, would be excellent and

that it would be quite influential-all the more because was a province in great difficulties.

Kim Jong Il, if necessary, set examples at units which were expected to have a bright prospect and immediate effect, or at the units and regions that were of critical importance in solving the problems arising in the revolution and construction in a certain period of time.

That's why he set examples at the Huichon Ryonha General Machine Factory and the Ragwon Machine Complex for the effort of modernizing the national economy as a whole in recent years.

In some cases he set examples at several units, instead of one, and even chose a full province as a unit for an example.

Once he was sorry about the fact that there had been no example for double-crop farming when a model of potato farming had been set in Taehongdan County under the direct guidance of the Party. He suggested that double cropping should be done extensively on an exemplary basis in every region while preparing a national model. His suggestion came from the judgment in order to implement the Party's policy of double cropping across the country it was necessary to establish different models in different regions as the country was in different climatic and soil conditions from region to region. Accordingly, examples of double and triple croppings were set in Jagang, South Hwanghae, Kangwon and other provinces.

In recent years **Kim Jong Il** made great efforts for improvement of the economy in South Hamgyong Province, the key province in improving the people's living standards in the DPRK. He visited the province nearly every month during the last three years of his lifetime. Over the period, he visited the February 8th Vinalon Complex, the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex, the Ryongsong Machine Complex, and some mining complexes in Komdok and Danchon areas to kindle the torch of modernization and improve their conditions. He visited the construction site of Danchon Port several times, attaching importance to the project. In the course of this there flared up the flames of Hamnam for the improvement of the people's living standards, which spread in all other parts of the country.

One of his distinctive qualities of leadership was to generalize an example he had set at a unit throughout the society as soon as possible.

So he placed special emphasis on organizing visits to the relevant units.

The saying goes that seeing is believing.

He saw to it that the leading officials of the provincial municipal and county Party committees and the army visited such units to learn from their experiences.

He also inspected lots of units which followed examples. It was an important method of putting the vitality of popular leadership into full play.

While looking round such units, he encouraged them to do better and taught them in detail how to develop further than the model ones.

It was the fruit of his such method of work that a zeal for introduction of CNC technology began to prevail across the whole country in the new century.

While looking round a machine tool factory, he was very pleased to see a high-speed and precise modern CNC lathe they manufactured by reaching advanced indexes in CNC machine tool production. At another factory, he expressed great satisfaction at the fact that the factory pushed back the high standard in the development of machine industry by making the production process IT-based with their own efforts and techniques and said encouragingly that it was another great victory achieved in the Songun era to hold supremacy in CNC technology.

And the units, scientists and officials exemplary in developing and introducing CNC technology of Korean style were publicized, and a song on CNC was created.

The world people are now regarding the DPRK as a scientific and technological power that's got the knack of CNC technology and saying with admiration that it's just a matter of time for the DPRK whose economy as a whole is being equipped with CNC technology to turn into an economic power. This is attributable just to **Kim Jong Il's** wise leadership.

In the 1980s, for instance, he ensured that the "speed of the 80s" was created in the construction of the 3rd ore-dressing plant of the then Komdok General Mining Enterprise and that the campaign to create the "speed of the 80s" was launched in

all sectors of the national economy.

What he regarded as the most important in relation to was the Three Revolution Red Flag Movement taking place in all fields of ideology, technology and culture.

The movement was initiated in the 1970s as an all-people mass movement in the DPRK.

During the “Arduous March” and forced march. **Kim Jong Il** made sure that the movement was more vigorously conducted. And when he kindled the torch of a new revolutionary upsurge in Kangson on December 24, Juche 97(2008) he saw that the movement was held fast to as ever.

Amidst the movement there more vigorously took place the movement to follow the examples of the meritorious persons in the era and the movement of mass technical innovation, bringing about miracles and innovations in production and construction by the day.

He also encouraged the emulation drive among the popular masses to effect an upsurge in all fields of the socialist construction.

Having already known about the passion and mettle of the Korean people who are unusually strong in competitive and revolutionary spirit he employed the method of arousing emulation among the masses to generalize examples steadily in different fields such as literature and the arts, and production and construction.

With the beginning of the Songun era in particular, he encouraged a mass emulation drive among the army, the public, the economic sector and the sector of literature and the arts, saying that emulation was a spirit of victory peculiar to socialist Korea and that it would ensure progress.

This led to the rapid generalization throughout the country of the experiences of the Migok Cooperative Farm, a socialist farm, the success of the Songjin Steel Complex in establishing a Juche iron production system, the example of the Huichon Ryonha General Machin Factory to be followed in making the national economy modern and IT-based and the experiences of the Samilpho Speciality Factory.

Kim Jong Il's outstanding art of popular leadership will, in the future, too, help dynamically promote the Korean revolution.

Endless guidance in the thick of reality

Kim Jong Il's art of popular leadership was outstanding because he led the masses in the thick of reality.

Getting into the thick of things, or going among the masses, is very important for a leader in setting a target for struggle as required by the developing reality and to suit the preparedness of the masses, strengthening the ideological and spiritual and sentimental and emotional ties with the masses and giving play to their spiritual strength.

Those recorded in history as statesmen who had administered politics were those who had got into thick of things. The history of their political activities conveys the data on their going to realities and listening to the voices of the masses.

On-site guidance was the main method of leadership which President **Kim Il Sung** had firmly maintained all his life. The traces of his continuous on-site guidance for the sake of people can be found in every part of the country.

Following the President's method of on-site guidance, **Kim Jong Il** led the revolution as a whole acquainting himself with all state affairs in the thick of reality and giving necessary instructions.

Saying that the reality, not a proposition or formula of a preceding theory, was the starting point in leading revolution and construction, he regarded it as his iron rule to map out and complete all things just in the thick of reality.

Grasping the actual conditions, planning undertakings and organizing and mobilizing the masses constitute the main contents and processes of leadership. Each of the processes has its own mode and requires appropriate time.

As to **Kim Jong Il**'s leadership, all such processes took place in the thick of reality and all relevant problems were immediately solved on the spot. Through his on-site guidance, he confirmed written data or came to know what he could not do through the j documents.

To him it was inconceivable apart from his on-site guidance to put forward an idea and a line, set a target for struggle and indicate the ways and means.

In making a policy it is a convention for state leaders to discuss with some specific organs or some officials and have relevant decisions adopted and published at some meetings. By contrast, **Kim Jong Il** bearing a firm political belief that one can have a good idea only when one is in touch with the reality and that the collection and systematization of their opinions and demands leads to successful lines and policies, set forth all ideological theories and policies by incorporating the popular masses' desires and demands.

In retrospect, it was his on-site guidance that produced the line of economic construction in the Songun era which maintaining giving priority to the development of the defence industry while developing light industry and agriculture simultaneously, the way to put power generation on a steadily high level so as to satisfy the need of electricity, the plan to bring about a great turn in the development of agriculture by making a revolution in applying select species of seeds, doing potato farming, and the line of land rezoning and extensive bean growing.

And he always mixed with the popular masses and helped them understand the WPK's policies, while putting trust in them and arousing great enthusiasm.

In the second half of the mid 1990s, **Kim Jong Il** continued his tour of on-site guidance to safeguard the destiny of the country and nation and open up the road to a thriving nation, saying that he would be the Supreme Commander who shared his destiny with soldiers, enjoying the smell of earth and powder smoke on their posts together with them.

It was a critical time for the country when the Korean people should choose their destiny - whether to remain guards of independence or reduce themselves to slaves. Upholding the banner of Songun **Kim Jong Il** gave on-site guidance to front posts over the steep cliff on Mt. Osong, Height 1211 and Mt. Taedok. And he inspected Jagang Province in the blizzards of winter to switch the "Arduous March" over to the march to paradise.

The reports of his revolutionary activities were mostly about his on-site guidance. In Juche 98(2009), for instance, he visited four times more units than the previous year in the first three months - over 200 units across the country in the year. And the distance he traveled by train for on-site guidance from December Juche 97(2008) when he kindled the flames of a new revolutionary upsurge in production at the Chollima Steel Complex to December Juche 98(2009) was equal to that he had done for the previous 10 years.

Scores of reports were officially made on his on-site guidance in January Juche 99(2010), which was the record high in January for the past scores of years.

And in the period of the general march to build a prosperous and powerful nation, his office was found at the gigantic front of creation and construction where the people were turning out molten iron, producing machines and doing farm work.

In Juche 100(2011), too, **Kim Jong Il** was always on his way of on-site guidance from the first day of the year to the last of his life.

Once, the Cambodian newspaper The People reported that the Korean people called the distinctive method of **Kim Jong Il**'s leadership "on-the-spot guidance of our General," the method by which the leader indicated the way for the Korean people to follow while sharing his destiny with them, showing his affection of and trust in them and combining guidance with the masses. And it continued, "The policy of solving the problem of short supply of power by building medium- and small-sized hydro power stations the policy of improving the people's living conditions drastically by effecting a radical turn in potato farming, applying double cropping, extensively, doing stockbreeding and fish-farming on a large scale and constructing many modern light industry factories have all come from his energetic on-the-spot guidance.

Kim Jong Il is encouraging all the Korean people to make a new great upsurge in the construction of a prosperous and powerful socialist country through his on-site guidance."

Once **Kim Jong Il** said that the WPK was promoting the struggle to build a thriving nation by the method of grasping situations on the spot and taking

measures suited to the reality. He went on to say, **“Thanks to this new method of leadership over the revolution and construction we are having miracle after miracle and innovation after innovation in all sectors and at all units day by day and solving economic problems one by one.”**

The launch of the artificial satellite Kwangmyongsong 2 on April 5, Juche 98(2009) recorded as the first event that year, was the first success achieved by the Korean scientists and technicians under the leadership of **Kim Jong Il**.

That day **Kim Jong Il** visited the satellite control center. Understanding the preparation for the launch, he encouraged them to carry out the launch with confidence, and then watched the whole process of the launching.

At 11:20 a.m. Kwangmyongsong 2 had soared into the space carried by the Unha 2 rocket, displaying the spirit of the Songun Korea making progress by leaps and bounds towards a prosperous and powerful nation.

Expressing his great satisfaction, **Kim Jong Il** offered warm congratulations to the scientists, technicians, workers and officials on their successful launch of the artificial satellite. He said with pleasure, **“The successful launch of the artificial satellite Kwangmyongsong 2 is as wonderful a success as a nuclear test. The scientists engaged in the project are all the apple of our eye. On behalf of the Party Central Committee, the Party Central Military Commission and the National Defence Commission, I extend my thanks to the scientists, technicians and workers who have contributed to the successful launch. And in celebration of the successful launch, I’d like to have a photo taken with the scientists, technicians, workers and officials working at this satellite control center.”**

That year the nation attained the CNC technology of the world’s topmost level, which was also the result of his initiative and leadership in the development of CNC technology.

Whenever he inspected units, he used to say that they should have modern facilities if they watched to produce high-quality things; and when he came to see facilities equipped with CNC technology he would appreciate them highly. In this

way he created the atmosphere of CNC technology wherever he went.

As a south Korean publication put it,

“What’s the meaning of the nuclear test and the launch of Kwangmyongsong 2 in north Korea? Their significance lies not only in the military sense. The meaning is that the north has a great capacity of making ultramodern machines. ... The attainment of the machine-building industry based on ultramodern technology is an explicit explanation that the national economy of the north has reached a very high standard.”

Kim Jong Il said that the attainment of the cream of the CNC technology was one of prides of the nation in the Songun era and the asset of Songun Korea that the world’s people still unaware of. In October Juche 100(2011), during the last period of his lifetime, he went to see the Huichon Ryonha General Machine Factory. Marvelling at the sea of computer-controlled machines, he said the factory was as valuable as a national treasure and that as a result of the “Arduous March” they made a leap forward in CNC technology.

4. Legendary General

All the Korean people highly admired **Kim Jong Il** as a legendary commander and great general. **Kim Jong Il**, who was Chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK and Supreme Commander of the KPA and was fully possessed of personalities and qualifications becoming a brilliant commander, developed the revolutionary armed forces of Korea into invincible armed forces and led to victory the anti-US confrontation to safeguard socialism in the DPRK over the past several decades.

1) Personalities of the outstanding general

Man strong in ideology

Kim Jong Il's first and foremost personality as a general was the strong ideological and mental strength.

President **Kim Il Sung** once said, “**There would rarely be such a man of strong faith and pluck as Comrade Kim Jong Il is. Once decided, he never wavers in his faith. During the long period of leading the Korean revolution, I have seen for the first time such a man of faith and pluck as Comrade Kim Jong Il is.**”

Kim Jong Il valued man's strong mental strength more than anybody else. In his early years he had already discovered the principle that man's idea decides everything, and held fast to the principle. He regarded the confrontation with the enemy as the one of faith and will, the one of courage and pluck, and overpowered the enemy by dint of mental strength.

Ri In Mo, a patriotic fighter for reunification, wrote in his poem in praise of

Kim Jong Il's faith and will as follows;

*History develops by your conviction,
The earth revolves by your will.
This war veteran presents to you
A flower bouquet of true faith and will
To you, the great General **Kim Jong Il***

Ri In Mo was an unconverted long-term prisoner in south Korea. He was a world-known war correspondent of KPA in the 1950s; though imprisoned for 34 years, he never gave up his conviction. Though he reached the twilight years of his life and his emotion withered away, he admired **Kim Jong Il** as the incarnation of faith and will with his pure and passionate heart. This admiration was not only of Ri In Mo, but also of all the people charmed by **Kim Jong Il's** greatness.

One day in March, Juche 83(1994), **Kim Jong Il** declared, **“To accomplish the revolutionary cause of Juche by force of arms is my unchangeable will and faith. I will always be with the People’s Army.”**

Carrying through the revolutionary cause of Juche in DPRK to the end with the People’s Army under the banner of Songun was his consistent faith and will to which he had firmly adhered over half a century of his Songun leadership.

He cherished the view that arms means army, its might is expressed in ideology and faith, and arms devoid of ideological strength is nothing but a stick.

It was **Kim Jong Il's** firm political creed to devotedly hold aloft in his whole life the red flag of Songun revolution that **Kim Il Sung** had defended throughout his life.

Once he received a document which needed his ratification. It was a document related to the fund to be spent on building up defence capabilities.

Reading the document, he felt heavy in his heart. In his mind’s eyes were his dear people cheerfully making their way through hardships even in the difficult living conditions caused by the American economic blockade.

He signed the document in a deep thought, and said earnestly to the officials concerned that it was painful for him to make such a decision when people were living in difficult conditions, but we let them know everything when we have emerged victorious, then they would understand why they had no choice but to tighten their belts.

Thanks to his faith in and will of Songun, the Korean people have recorded victory after victory, demonstrating the spirit of the DPRK. Witnessing the ceaseless miracles and successes achieved, they are convinced of the bright future of **Kim Il Sung**'s nation and Songun Korea, leaping towards the status of a powerful country

On February 17, Juche 96(2007), he said to the officials.

“It is my firm faith and will to make our Korea most powerful in politics but in the ideological, military and economic aspects and to add lustre to it in the world by dint of Songun.”

Kim Jong Il's strong ideological and mental strength was also expressed in his strong courage and pluck.

Kim Il Sung said, **“Comrade Kim Jong Il is strong in his courage and pluck. ... He remains unperturbed in front of the enemy however strong they may be. I like his strong courage and pluck, and his fighting spirit to annihilate enemy.”**

Courage and pluck is an essential mental power for a military leader fighting in a life-and-death battlefield. Only a man with the courage and pluck strong enough to lead military operations in the flames of battlefields without any vacillation may possibly emerge victorious in any circumstances and in any battles against any great enemy - this was what he believed in.

His courage and pluck were akin to those of **Kim Il Sung** who had started a life-or-death struggle against million-strong Japanese troops with only two pistols in his teens, leading the anti-Japanese war to victory, and who had brought victory in the Korean war against the American aggressors with the still young Korean People's Army under his command.

He never grew embarrassed or surprised in any urgent circumstances, but dealt with them audaciously and flexibly. Among the world-famous brilliant military commanders he appreciated was Kutuzov, Russian army commander who repelled Napoleon's invasion of Russia, because, having spent his whole life as a soldier, Kutuzov was surprisingly composed in battlefields.

In January Juche 57(1968), when an American armed spy ship Pueblo was captured, **Kim Jong Il** saw to it that soldiers sang songs optimistically and played athletic games. In the days of the Panmunjom Incident provoked by the US, he was bold enough to enjoy music and take a rest, saying that if he was afraid of troubles, he couldn't do any thing. These stories are already well known to the world.

One day in the late November Juche 87(1998), **Kim Jong Il** summoned commanding officers of the army.

The then situation was extremely tense. The US drew OP-PLAN 5027, a second Korean war plan, in an attempt to "retaliate" the defeat they had suffered in the past Korean war and aggravated | the situation on the Korean peninsula, bringing into south Korea all sorts of modern war equipment. All army commanders looked very highly strung.

It was, however, an artistic performance staged by soldiers that he invited them to. To the army commanders, he said that the real intention of the US disclosing of its war plan to the public was to discourage the DPRK, and he encouraged the commanders to cope boldly with the enemy's maneuvers.

Later, he had a statement issued revealing the aggressive nature of the enemy's operational scheme to the world. In addition he put forward a brilliant plan to frustrate enemy's attempts.

The DPRK fought against the US with the following thunderbolt-like declaration; "To fight fire with fire is the mettle and mode of response inherent in our revolutionary army. We do not want war, but we never avoid it. Once they force war upon us, we'll never miss the chance. ..."

One day **Kim Jong Il** visited Panmunjom situated at enemy's nose and posed for a photograph with the soldiers in front of the monument inscribed with the

autograph of President **Kim Il Sung**, and another day he went to the frontline post on the top of Height 1211 as close as one kilometre to the enemy's post and instilled ever-victorious strategy into the hearts of soldiers.

The Korean soldiers and people followed his courage and pluck This surprised the world.

In December Juche 83(1994), shortly after a KPA soldier shot down, with a single shot, an American helicopter which had violated the territorial sky of the DPRK, a vice-chairman of the Washington National Movement Association in the US visited DPRK. Back home he said, "The south Korean and American media are noisy everyday. But the atmosphere there in the north was peaceful as if nothing had happened. To be more exact, people in the north seemed to never care about the political and military blackmailing and threat from the US." His impression was carried on the south Korean magazine Mal.

The declaration of a semi-war state to cope with the joint military exercise Team Spirit staged by the US and south Korea in 1990s and the declaration of withdrawal from the NPT by the DPRK government were some examples of the Korean people's courage and pluck against the US. In fact, they took after **Kim Jong Il**.

Dozens of newspapers including Daily Zinna of Pakistan reported that "KPA and the Korean people will always be ever-victorious because they have as their leader Chairman **Kim Jong Il** of the National Defence Commission, who has iron will and faith, unparalleled courage and pluck."

This reflects the unanimous belief of not only the Korean people but also the peace-loving progressive people over the world.

Commander of great resource

Kim Jong Il was a brilliant strategist and tactician, commander of great resource.

President **Kim Il Sung** often said in his lifetime that every time the country had been faced with tense situation, **Kim Jong Il** would analyze the acute military and political situations accurately and on the basis of it, put forward adroit and consummate tactics and ideas to have the enemies at his beck and call, so that the country could frustrate every move for enemy's war provocation. He admired highly **Kim Jong Il** as a brilliant military strategist and invincible commander.

A brilliant commander must, above all, be good at strategy and tactics. A victory and defeat in the battlefield is decided by brains and resource. Equipped with modern military equipment and superior in number as one is, without resource one cannot smash the enemy and eventually lose in a battle.

Kim Jong Il began to lead the confrontation with the US imperialists in his late twenties. In this process he displayed to the full extent the talent and competence as a man of resource and strategist. This is a world-recognized fact.

He was a brilliant operations planner.

Long time ago, he examined an island defence operational plan mapped out by army; he instantly grasped weak points in the plan and corrected them on the spot.

The operational plan made by military operation experts was aimed at destroying in the air and sea the enemies invading the island. In consideration of the fact that the enemy would deliver quelling strike in advance and then bring a special task force into the island, they mapped out such a defence operational plan.

Commenting that the plan would never prove fruitful once the enemy delivered air strike and at the same time bring the special task force into the island, **Kim Jong Il** personally put forward scientific, effective countermeasures against this maneuver.

Today, with the development of military science and technology, the accuracy

of strike and the maneuverability of military units have increased. In this context the main trend in the operations of special task force in modern warfare is that a powerful preemptive strike, commitment of special task force, its prompt deployment are all conducted simultaneously.

Once when he was examining the operational plan which embodied all visions and brains of the experienced military operation experts, he himself recommended a new, perfect, convention-breaking plan to cope with not only the strike from the land, sea and air, but also from the satellite. At another time he mapped out sea combat operational plan of the Korean style in accordance with the main trend in modern war focusing on the surprise attack and night actions.

Kim Jong Il was a brilliant military strategist, who recorded in history bloodless victories without fighting by smashing the enemy's attempt at its outset with mysterious strategy and tactics.

From olden times a war relying on weapons has been rated low, a war resorting to diplomacy medium, and a war based on resource high. The war history shows that victorious brilliant commanders were all intelligent strategists whereas those who had been defeated disgracefully in battles were undoubtedly commanders with insufficient wisdom.

Kim Jong Il, while leading the political and military confrontation with the imperialists' allied forces over a half century, and enjoyed popularity as a brilliant strategist.

"The main characteristics of General **Kim Jong Il**'s tactics lies in the bloodless victory based on resource by defeating the enemy without fighting. That is, the Korean people win victory without shedding blood." "General **Kim Jong Il** is a hero, who has built invincible military forces to defeat the US and neutralizes the American army without fighting a war against it." This is a unanimous evaluation for him by the world military commentators.

Kim Jong Il's tactics of bloodless victory is tactics of offensive with which to repulse the attack of the enemy by dint of strategic and tactical supremacy.

From time immemorial it is believed that the general who defeats the enemy

without fighting a battle by relying on the superior strategy and tactics to the enemy's is a genuine brilliant commander, and that such a victory is a superior victory.

To say a few examples. In March Juche 69(1980), he organized a sudden large-scale mobile operations when the enemy's military training was at its height, so that the enemy's training scheme ended in a failure and tragicomedy; they turned the drill emergency into the combat emergency. In Juche 72(1983) with mysterious tactics he made the enemy's aggressive military exercise to be conducted at the stage of real war end in fruitless exercise. These are some of the uncountable stories about the military tactics of **Kim Jong Il**, who combined superbly diversified military countermeasures with a political onslaught to repulse the enemy's aggressive attempts.

Kim Jong Il's extraordinary resource was based on his| profound military insight and prominent military wisdom.

“It is common that the famous commanders in history were good at ground battle while unread in sea battle, and brilliant in operations while not familiar with weapons and its usages. But **Kim Jong Il** not only assumes the leadership of the overall armed forces but familiarizes himself with services, arms and technical force ranged from the operation tactics to military equipment. Even war veterans marvel at his unusual military wisdom, tactics and profound knowledge about the military. This is no exception for me too, though I served in the army all my life.”

This was what Marshal Yazov, a former Soviet Union defence minister well known in Russia as well as in the US and the west, said after an interview with **Kim Jong Il**.

Not only the famous military commanders and defence experts in the DPRK, but also many foreigners who have been informed of his military insight unanimously expressed such admiration.

Kim Jong Il was familiar with the theory and practice on all kinds of armament and its strategic and tactical usage.

This happened when **Kim Jong Il** paid a visit to the Russian Federation in July

and August Juche 90(2001).

President Putin showed him very important places as a mark of his respect, trust and sincerity for **Kim Jong Il**. Among them were Khrunichev State Space Center in Moscow, Omsk Transport Machine Plant and Chkalov Aeronautic Complex in Novosibirsk. During his visit to these establishments, **Kim Jong Il** displayed his all-round and profound expert knowledge about the advanced military science and technology and armament to the wonder and admiration of the Russian scientists and technicians there.

The deep-going insight and analytical judgment are important grounds on which **Kim Jong Il** enjoyed full reputation as an unusual military strategist, a brilliant commander of resource.

Kim Jong Il saw through the nature of complicated military situation and state of things, analyzed by comparison the characteristics of the labyrinthine military matters, brought them together to infer a scientific conclusion and put forward a tactics for victory.

Once there was held a meeting of military officers in the presence of **Kim Il Sung** and **Kim Jong Il**.

At the meeting they long discussed operational alternatives to foil the “5-day war” and “7-day war” plans cooked up in secret and conducted on a full scale by the US and south Korean puppets.

They worked out operational plans of destroying the enemy aircraft and warships in the air and sea, and then focused on an operational plan for a forefront area. Where is the enemy’s target and where should be the direction of our main attack? Several suggestions were made on these questions. Present at the meeting were military officers who had acquired a deep military knowledge and rich experiences in operations in the process of delving into the operation strategy over years. So they made a number of good suggestions.

But listening to their discussion to the end, **Kim Il Sung** commented that their suggestions were lack of scientific grounds and objective validity.

At this moment, **Kim Jong Il** stood up and suggested his own alternative.

He circled one point with a pointer and said with confidence that that point would be the enemy's target.

That point was a place the military leaders considered' disadvantageous for the enemies to attack and defend. For this reason, no one expected that the enemy would aim at this topographically disadvantageous place.

Pointing the place, **Kim Jong Il** disclosed the enemy's plan to conduct the main attack on the ground, but by armored units and airborne troops, and he personally suggested his operational countermeasure against their plan.

Kim Il Sung said that it was just what he had thought. A storm of applause arose among the military officers. By the dint of such an extraordinary insight and analytical judgment, he made fruitless the parachuting exercise of the airborne troops staged by the US and the south Korean puppets in the days of the Team Spirit 83 joint military exercise; he had already foreseen the world trend towards tank development and concluded that the tank which suited to the Korean topography and the physics of Koreans and could destroy the enemy troops at one blow was the one that the KPA should be equipped with.

Such profound military knowledge and extraordinary insight enabled him to gain a world-fame as a brilliant commander and lead to victory the military confrontation with the US without firing any gunshot.

Benevolent general

Kim Jong Il was a benevolent general who built up the military strength of the DPRK and led the revolution of Songun with the love and trust.

He bestowed love and trust on soldiers with benevolence, and led them to victory. Therein lies attraction of **Kim Jong Il** as a brilliant commander.

Kim Il Sung said in his lifetime that **Kim Jong Il** was a benevolent general and, though some people fear generals, he was a brave general in front of the enemy but kind, benevolent commander in front of the people.

Kim Jong Il's benevolence and moral influence is based on his own unique standpoint to benevolence.

“It is a revolutionary who wins over friends and comrades by virtue of will and benevolence,” “Only a politician who gains the confidence of people and wins over them by dint of benevolence, can fulfill his mission in the man-centered world,” “A virtue of benevolence gathers people while its absence scatters them away.” These are some quotes from **Kim Jong Il**.

There had been long and many discussions about benevolence. From time immemorial it is believed that a politician must be benevolent and govern the country with benevolence.

Long ago one philosopher said meaningfully, “A man, equipped with talent and benevolence, is a saint; a man with talent and insufficient benevolence is a wise man; benevolent but untalented man is a man of virtue; a man with talent but no benevolence is a small mind; a man without both talent and benevolence is a fool.” His words suggest that benevolence is an important character for which people paid respect.

Kim Jong Il fully embodied the political principle of love and trust in his unique Songun politics.

It was his invariable political faith that the incompetence of the socialist political leader will result in delay of the development of the socialist society, while the

absence of benevolence result in betrayal of the people and collapse of socialism.

With this faith he traveled a long road of Songun for the security and happiness of people.

One day he said, **“I view our soldiers not in the context of the relationship between men and their Supreme Commander, but as revolutionary comrades who share my ideals and will, and I love them boundlessly. However remote and difficult to access, I visit the places where my soldiers are, showing them my trust and affection and making them my comrades in the Songun revolution. The soldiers place absolute trust in me and follow me, calling me, the Supreme Commander, their closest comrade.”**

Kim Jong Il was the Supreme Commander of the Korean People’s Army and Chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK. However, when he was approaching the soldiers, he was their father and close revolutionary comrade than.

The entire army and all the people of the DPRK absolutely respected and followed him, just because he had the noblest benevolence.

Once he said, **“Because he has comrades, Kim Jong Il exists; without them Kim Jong Il could not exist - this is my ideological creed. The belief that my comrade is me and I am him-this is my view of a comrade.”**

From the early period of his Songun leadership over the revolution and construction, whenever he encountered important tasks, he entrusted the army with them, and encouraged them to take the lead in the revolution.

His great trust in the army was manifested more remarkably from the latter half of the 1990s when Songun politics was administered full steam in the DPRK.

After **Kim Il Sung** had passed away, he worked out a new historical cause, comprehensive administration of Songun politics, and placed the army as the main force pillar, of the Korean revolution.

Kim Jong Il’s ardent love for soldiers found its expression in paying his primary attention to the political education of them.

He regarded it as his primary task to acquaint himself with the political work by

the army units and subunits when he inspected them. He would learn how education rooms and various educational means including newspapers, books and educational materials were provided and used and make arrangements for providing them with materials for political work and organizing film shows;

Under the particular care of **Kim Jong Il** who did everything for the soldiers' ideological development all units and posts of the KPA are equipped with color TV, DVD players karaoke machines, on-desk study materials, education materials, revolutionary novels, loudspeaker vans.

His revolutionary comradeship was fatherly love with which he devotedly worked for the life and health of soldiers.

Kim Jong Il would sleep in his field car and have rice-balls on the way only after he had left army units, so as not to cause any inconvenience to soldiers.

He relieved the mental pain of soldier who had lost his parents and all relatives by the enemy and been anxious for the whereabouts of his cousin, the only survivor, and sent an airplane abroad to have cured the eyes of a soldier who had almost lost eyesight in an accident.

Today in all units of the Korean People's Army a National Dish Day and a Day for Soldiers, when officers' wives prepare traditional and special dishes for soldiers, are celebrated on a regular basis. This is an unusual scene that can be seen only in the DPRK.

The climax of **Kim Jong Il's** revolutionary comradeship finds its expression in his comradely love and obligation for the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters, the first generation of the Songun revolutionary cause in Korea.

Nearly Seven decades elapsed since **Kim Jong Il**, born in a small log cabin at the secret camp of Mt Paektu in the period of anti-Japanese guerrilla war, had established comradely and friendly relationship with the fighters. His revolutionary love and obligation grew more passionate with the lapse of time.

He respected the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters as veterans of the Korean revolution, and organized recreation and recuperation every season and took various measures for them, so that they would work in good health without any

inconvenience.

One episode tells that **Kim Jong Il**, on hearing the news that one veteran fighter had lost his consciousness and been hospitalized, postponed a prearranged important meeting and often made a phone call to the hospital waiting for the news of his recovery. Another episode tells that when another veteran fighter had to receive a medical operation, he personally took part in it as an observer, saying the veterans' presence was of help to the Party. Such episodes are too many to enumerate.

His love for the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters never changed after they had passed away. The eternal image of the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters on the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery and the valuable life their bereaved families enjoy graphically described this fact.

Thanks to **Kim Jong Il**'s revolutionary comradeship, veterans of the Korean beyond the twilight years live a worthwhile life as guides to the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum wearing military uniforms, and the heroes, who performed feats before dying a heroic death on the road of defence of the country, are remembered their home towns and old schools as their statues stand at them.

2) Building up the strong military strength

Unique outlook on military strength

Kim Jong Il established a unique outlook on military strength and, based upon it, brought into full bloom the building of the revolutionary armed forces in the DPRK.

That military strength represents sovereignty, right to existence and destiny of a nation is his unique view and standpoint and invariable faith and will which he established and applied to the realization of state politics.

This was a scientific and theoretical review of the history of the Korean revolution was originated and advanced towards the victoriously by force of arms. It also consisted in the comprehensive review of the lessons obtained at the cost of blood in the history of the Korean nation which had been forced to suffer colonial slavery by the Japanese imperialists for nearly a half century at the threshold of the civilized era of the 20th century owing to its weak military strength. It also represented the overall review of the long history of mankind that experienced 15 000 wars so far. In particular, it represented an iron truth based upon the analysis of the current reality in which the sovereignty, right to existence, dignity of nations and countries are cruelly trampled down by the US which resorts to high-handedness and arbitrariness and clamors about “logic of forces”.

In August Juche 89(2000), when he was asked about the main source of his strength by which he had firmly defended socialism in the north during the meeting with a south Korean media delegation, he answered promptly: My strength comes out of military strength. I have two sources of strength; one is single-hearted unity and the other is military strength. Only when we have military strength can we establish relationships with foreign countries from the stand of independence. Strong military strength is prerequisite for establishing friendly relationship with

other countries. Otherwise, we would be doomed to ruin like Regent Taewon or Queen Min in the closing days of the Ri Dynasty.

With this iron truth as his faith throughout his life he adorned the history of his leadership of the revolution with Songun revolutionary leadership. Out of this faith came the revolutionary line of Songun and the principle of giving priority to the military affairs, and Songun politics was created.

Once, looking back over the days when he had traversed the road of Songun, he said that, in fact, it was painful for him to give on-the-spot guidance to the army units not to the factories and countryside, though he saw with his own eyes the stopped factories and people suffering hardships in their living. He added that the day when we had won final victory, the people would understand why he continued ceaselessly on-site guidance to the front though he knew the difficult in economic situation.

Thanks to his Songun politics, the country, which had no sufficient arms and army strong enough to defend the nation on its own and had been forced to post foreign guards at the gate to the royal palace and enslaved without a gun report against the foreign invasion only one century ago, has today developed into a full-fledged nuclear state and a satellite-launching state on the world arena.

An army's mightiness depends not on the number of its troops and its military hardware, but on the greatness of its Supreme Commander, while its invincible might is decided by the wise leadership of its Supreme Commander. Clear proof is the fact that the military strength and dignity of the armies distinguished for the strongest in history is often heard together with the names of the military commanders and generals who had commanded them consists in the manifest evidence for the description above.

Kim Jong Il held it as a priority task of building up the revolutionary armed forces to establish a revolutionary command system and military discipline in which the whole army move like one man according to the orders of the Supreme Commander.

Today in the DPRK the Korean People's Army is fully equipped with the spirit

of defending the leader unto death and displays to the full its might as an organizational entity that move like one man under the order of the Supreme Commander. If it were the order or directive of the Supreme Commander the Korean service personnel carried it out without hesitation at a go. Such a militant might is the greatest strength and pride of the Korean People's Army which can never be found in the armies of any countries in the world.

In September Juche 86(1997), VOA broadcast some of the contents discussed at the Forum on North Korea sponsored by the International Relation Institute at the Defence University and the Washington Strategy and International Relation Institute, and it reported as follows: Today the army must be regarded as a political force pledging an absolute, unconditional loyalty to **Kim Jong Il** in north Korea. It is the KPA that takes the lead in upholding his leadership in such tough conditions. It's precisely because the army defends **Kim Jong Il** that his leadership has struck its root deep in north Korea.

Kim Jong Il's outlook on military strength is based on the Juche-oriented view on man, a view that attaches importance to ideology.

He insisted that the strength of an army and victory in a war is decided not by weaponry but men, that a military strike has its limits, but an ideology has no limits and its might is more powerful than an atomic bomb, and that the source of the invincible power of the Korean People's Army lies in the single-hearted unity, in which officers and men, the army and the people and military officers and political officers are united firmly with each other in a comradely way.

War is fought not by weaponry but men and military hardware is nothing but a means of war in the hands of the men. The might of the military hardware is decided by the preparedness of the men. A weapon in the hands of unprepared men is tantamount to a stick, no matter how powerful it may be. This was what **Kim Jong Il** advocated.

Kim Jong Il not only regarded the human factor as the main factor of military strength but maintained that the might of the human factor lay in the might of ideology and unity.

He held that man strong in ideology is the strongest man no one can defeat. He was firmly convinced that no one can match a revolutionary army which has formed a harmonious whole of the Supreme Commander and the soldiers and there is no fortress such an army cannot conquer. He valued unity between officers and men, unity between army and people, and combination of the military work and political work as the source of invincible power of the Korean People's Army, more powerful than an A-bomb and H-bomb and as the greatest pride inherent in the Korean People's Army which can never be created by the modern military science and technology.

History has recorded many opinions and standpoints on the factors which decide the might of an army and victory in a war.

The theory of the might of weaponry prevailed in the 20th century, and it still does so in the 21st century when military science and technology is developing rapidly and military equipment are being remarkably modernized. One country had relied on the theory of the might of vessels; another country resorted to the theory of the might of tanks in its dream for world domination. The US maintained the theory of air supremacy. Today the theory of omnipotence of nuclear weapons has become dominant in the world. This is, in essence, another version of the theory of the might of the | weaponry. This theory neglects the human factor and, what is worse, does not take into consideration the politico-ideological preparedness of the troops as long as the equipment of high technology and modernized weapons are developed.

There are many countries in the world and each country has its own army. However, there is no such an army as the People's Army which has formed a harmonious whole between its Supreme Commander and its soldiers in blood-sealed ties and has been equipped with a thoroughgoing ideology and conviction.

Revolutionary armed forces of Mt Paektu

Kim Jong Il put forward the original line of building up armed forces and developed the Korean People's Army into revolutionary armed forces of Mt Paektu.

It was his objective in building up the armed forces to develop the Korean People's Army into revolutionary armed forces of Mt Paektu which inherited the revolutionary traditions of the anti-Japanese guerrillas, who had ushered in the era of the building of the revolutionary armed forces, for self-defence in Korea.

On the New Year's Eve of Juche 84(1995), **Kim Jong Il** said to the military commanding personnel that the Korean People's Army should safeguard the tradition of the Seventh Regiment which had defended the leadership of the revolution unto death in the period of the anti-Japanese armed struggle, that we needed many units of the type of the Seventh Regiment to accomplish the revolutionary cause of Juche, and that the whole army should become the Seventh Regiment. Thus the whole army launched vigorously the movement of winning the title of O Jung Hup-led Seventh Regiment under the slogan "Let the whole army become today's Seventh Regiment defending the leadership of the revolution unto death!" from January 1, Juche 85(1996).

The movement of winning the title of O Jung Hup-led Seventh Regiment is a mass movement for following the example made by the Seventh Regiment which had defended the headquarters of the Korean revolution at the cost of their lives during the period of the anti-Japanese armed struggle and for preparing all the officers and men as human bullets and bombs defending the leadership of the revolution unto death so as to develop the People's Army into invincible revolutionary armed forces of Mt Paektu.

This movement requires that all officers and men should be prepared to be strong in ideology and faith, equipped with the spirit of defending the leader unto death, and they should make collective innovations in increasing the combat

efficiency of units including combat preparedness, unit management, strict military discipline, soldiers' material and cultural life. Thus this movement is the general goal and direction of the current military and political work of the Korean People's Army.

In the fierce flames of this movement, there has been made considerable change in the ideological and moral traits and strengthening of the combat efficiency of the army.

In January Juche 88(1999), at a seaside of Japan several dead bodies were found; their nationalities, identities and even the cause of their death were unknown.

Together with some articles packed in a waterproof oilpaper and tied to their bodies, a letter had been found. The letter read, "Tell where the sideline ship numbered 151-609 is. It began drift about owing to the engine trouble. The water leaked into the ship. The food and water had already run out. To be on the safe side, we brought down the portraits of President **Kim Il Sung** and General **Kim Jong Il** and kept them separately. ... Those who get this, tell where our ship is. Tell all fought resolutely to the end as the soldiers of General **Kim Jong Il**. We wish a good health of the respected Supreme Commander **Kim Jong Il**. Long live General **Kim Jong Il**! Long live Juche Korea, the powerful and prosperous nation! November 11, Juche 87"

This is only one of the numerous examples showing the lofty ideological and mental strength of the army in the DPRK.

Pilot Kil Yong Jo chose to steer his plane into the sea in a burning plane in order to safeguard the safety of the leadership of the Korean revolution and to save the life and property of the people, although he had heard eight times the order to bail out. 17 soldiers on Mujae Hill plunged into the fierce flames without hesitation and protected the revolutionary slogan-bearing trees and the valuable forest resources of the country and died a heroic death.

It is one of the exploits **Kim Jong Il** performed in developing the army into the revolutionary armed forces of Mt Paektu that he turned every soldier into

a-match-for-a-hundred combatant familiar with exquisitely subtle combat method of the Korean style.

The enemy superior in military technology must be overwhelmed by the politico-ideological superiority and the supremacy in strategy and tactics. This is the truth verified by the victorious history of the KPA which had won brilliant victory in the two revolutionary wars.

Kim Jong Il activated the work of developing continuously in accordance with the requirements of the modern warfare the Juche-oriented tactics which had been created by **Kim Il Sung** and displayed to the full their vitality in the two revolutionary wars. At the same time, he paid great attention to the soldiers' combat training so as to make them well versed in the Juche-oriented combat methods and skillfully apply them to sudden and various combat situations.

Furthermore, he pinpointed the training goal and direction of all units of arms and services to suit the characteristics of modern warfare and actual conditions of Korea, and put forward the slogan "Training is also a battle!" to raise the hot wind of training in every training ground of the army.

Kim Jong Il often emphasized that the foremost revolutionary task entrusted by Party to the army is to prepare completely for combat by training hard, and in peacetime without gunshot soldiers who are diligent in training are regarded as soldiers faithful to the Party and the leader and heroes, while units which carry out training task qualitatively and unconditionally are very strong units, thus ensuring that a militant atmosphere of training for perfect combat preparedness prevailed over the whole army.

He gave on-site guidance to the combat training in the northern tip of the country and to the training of a combined tank unit. He saw a joint strike exercise of the units of the three services and had souvenir photos taken with the soldiers who had done a good training. In January, Juche 98(2009), he visited the Seoul Ryu Kyong Su 105 Guards Tank Division, and guided the training by the division. Later he visited another unit under the Artillery Command of the KPA, and guided target firing practice there. In the last period of his life, he kept paying close

attention to the army's preparedness for combat.

Thanks to his energetic leadership remarkable achievements were made in strengthening the combat readiness of the army and the soldiers were prepared to be a-match-for-a-hundred combatants.

Some years ago the People's Army combatants got aboard for their training; unfortunately their ship started being drifted about owing to a sudden engine trouble and finally struck the rock on the sea off Kangwon Province in south Korea. Though they ran out of food, they moved freely through the mountain ranges for dozens of days and fought a life-and-death battle against the enemy, demonstrating the mettle of the KPA.

Having witnessed this battle on TV with their own eyes, the world people were surprised at the sight of a-match-for-a-hundred combatants, whereas the enemies said that the whole territory of the south Korea would have been conquered instantly if one battalion of such combatants, not one division or corps, attacked them.

Kim Jong Il showed deep concern about the modernization of military hardware of the army.

He gave wise leadership to the work of increasing the striking force of military hardware of the army by sometimes personally test-firing a new weapon in a shooting range wrapped in flames and dust, and observing a test-running of modernized equipment at other times.

He also penetrated deep into the fact that it would be impossible to win a victory in a war of high technology without up-to-date military hardware. Long ago he already formulated that modern war is an electronic one, and encouraged the army to be fully prepared for an electronic war.

This happened when a US reconnaissance plane appeared in the sky over the economic zone of the DPRK off the coast of the East Sea of Korea in Juche 92(2003).

The KPA pilots broke through the electronic surveillance network of the enemy's plane and approached as near as 15 meters to the reconnaissance plane

RC-135, which is said to be equipped with ultra-electronic and optical facilities designed to reconnoiter into one-thousand-kilometer depth of the enemy's side and to capture the access of any modern planes and to take countermeasures against them. Further they chased the American plane for even 22 minutes.

“The Korean People's Army is the first-rate army in terms of mental strength, mobility and striking force.” “With only the military hardware shown in the military parade they can win victory in one war.” These were impressions made by the heads of Cuban and Iranian military delegations after they observed the parade held in celebration of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the KPA. Today the People's Army has developed further. The military parade of the units of three services of the KPA, Korean People's Internal Security Forces, Worker-Peasant Red Guards and Young Red Guards held in Juche 99(2010) in celebration of the 65th anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea was an occasion for demonstrating the military strength of the revolutionary armed forces of the DPRK.

Independent defence industry

To develop country's defence industry into an independent industry is a strong guarantee for building self-supporting armed forces.

But the building of defence industry capable of producing all weapons of the country by itself is easier said than done. Furthermore, it is a difficult task to produce by its own technology and efforts such a variety of weapons of high-technology and large amounts needed for modern war expanded from land, sea and air to space and cyber space.

Kim Jong Il's full determination to intensify the independent character of the defence industry was based on the scientific insight into the lessons obtained at the cost of blood in the past and the requirement of the modern war.

One century ago Korea's military strength was so weak that it was forced to suffer the miserable destiny of an enslaved nation for nearly half a century. In the period of the Korean War the KPA was forced to beat a temporary retreat for strategic purposes because of lack of weapons, even after they had liberated 90% of the whole territory of south Korea.

Kim Jong Il regarded the issue of strengthening the defence industry as an issue decisive of the destiny of the country and nation.

In the period of the "Arduous March", some officials revealed a tendency of paying little attention to the defence industry owing to the tough economic conditions.

Kim Jong Il said to them as follows: We must rely on the foundations of our own economy, including heavy industry, and develop persistently the munitions industry. In the present circumstances nobody will give us the guns and aircraft. We must make efficient use of the existing economic foundations to boost our economy and solve the people's living. At the same time we must develop the munitions industry to produce modern weapons and war materials and to defend our socialist system.

Proceeding from this stand he put forward a new strategic line of economic construction of the Songun era of developing the defence industry on a priority basis and ensuring the simultaneous development of light industry and agriculture.

He emphasized as follows: The Songun era demands that all questions arising in the revolution and construction be solved in the principle of giving priority to military affairs. We must conduct the economic construction to meet the demand of the Songun era. As I have often said, it is today's actual reality that we can live without candies, but not without bullets. We must develop the defence industry to turn the country into an impregnable fortress.

Under the wise leadership of **Kim Jong Il** who regarded defence industry as the lifeline, gave top priority to it and put his heart and soul into its development, the defence industry of the DPRK has developed into an independent, modern one, self-sufficient enough to meet the enormous military needs for a modern war.

The mighty modern military hardware produced by the country's independent modern defence industry built under his Songun politics strikes the world with admiration.

Juche Korea has achieved the world-wide fame as a country producing and launching artificial satellite, an integral whole of the most advanced science and technology, and full-fledged nuclear state. This is a brilliant fruit borne of **Kim Jong Il's** energetic devotion to the building of the independent defence industry.

The military parade held in Pyongyang in October Juche 99(2010) in celebration of the 65th anniversary of the WPK again struck the world with admiration.

Following the parade of the troops advanced across **Kim Il Sung** Square the columns of guns, armoured cars, tanks, multiple rocket launchers, different ranged missiles, and antimissile systems, demonstrating the might of the independent defence industry of the DPRK.

The world mass media reported the parade, saying that the series of modern weapons showed the highest level of defence industry of the DPRK and

highlighted the might of the missiles, in particular, the antimissile systems. They added that this antimissile system is a powerful means of intercepting enemy's aircraft or missiles within the radius of hundreds of kilometers and a few countries including US and Russia are said to have this kind of cutting-edge weaponry. They also reported that the DPRK put these home-made antimissile systems on display parade, surprising the whole world.

One foreign ambassador said that such an antimissile system would cost a hundreds of millions of dollars, but the DPRK produced them by itself, and that the “surgical strike” the US clamored about would turn out to be futile.

A porcupine-like country

“The DPRK is a formidable country like a porcupine.” This is an evaluation many world military commentators, military experts, several TV and radio broadcasts made about the DPRK from the 20th century.

It was **Kim Jong Il** who turned the DPRK into a country any strong enemy can never make a reckless attack upon in the current world where the weak must be a slave. **Kim Jong Il** brilliantly embodied the line of arming all the people and turning the whole country into a fortress put forward by the President **Kim Il Sung** in accordance with the requirement of modern war and established an all-people and nationwide defence system.

Kim Jong Il said, “We should create a climate in which prominence is given to military affairs throughout society. By doing so, we can ensure that all the people love and support the army and make the country a ‘porcupine’ by placing all the people under arms and fortifying the whole country.”

In September Juche 51(1962), when he was studying at **Kim Il Sung** University, he proved in his early twenties the superiority of an all-people defence system. He emphasized that an all-people defence system had already be fully established, if enemy invaded any place at any time, Koreans can crush the aggressors at a stroke and safeguard the country and revolutionary gains reliably. At that time he spoke in simple terms that this system can be likened to a porcupine with its thorns erected over the whole body to defend itself from the attack of other animal, and that it is powerful enough to cope with a modern war fought in a three-dimensional way.

In December that year, he mentioned on the question of strengthening the national defence power as required by the prevailing situation and suggested that if all the people were put under arms and the whole country was turned into an impregnable fortress, the country would become a “porcupine”. He concluded that as no beasts of prey would dare to pounce upon a thorny porcupine, so no enemy

could pounce upon us if we arm all the people and turn the country into a fortress.

In January Juche 56(1967), when the escort ship PCE 56 Incident broke out and the situation became more aggravated by the US and the south Korean puppet clique, he instructed that we must be in full readiness for combat so as to launch immediate counterattack against the enemy should they attack, and turn whole country into the one like the Xiaowangqing guerrilla zone.

The Xiaowangqing guerrilla zone and the battle to defend it which had been recorded as a brilliant page in the history of the Korean revolution were impressive enough to be engraved in the mind of **Kim Jong Il** in his lifetime.

In the early period of the anti-Japanese armed struggle the Korean revolution was concentrated in the small area of the Xiaowangqing guerrilla zone together with the anti-Japanese guerrillas, the heart of the revolution. The enemy hurled 5,000 troops into this area in all directions, in the sky and on the land, to commit “scorched-earth operations” for over 90 days. At that time, armed persons in the guerrilla zone were only the guerrillas of two companies. The guerrillas were inferior to the enemy not only in armed force but combat equipment. However, they defeated the Japanese troops and defended the zone. The key to this victory lay in the original all-people defence system put forward and implemented by President **Kim Il Sung**. The guerrillas and the people in the guerrilla zone wrested weapons from the enemy to arm themselves, built strong defence in the many places in the zone to blockade the enemy’s attack, and fought life-and-death battles by united efforts. Even the elderly children turned out to fight at cost of their lives. As a result, the guerrilla zone, which the enemy had expected to destroy easily by means of guns and aircraft, could be defended as the home base of the happiness of people.

This is the reason why **Kim Jong Il** could not forget the experience and truth of the Xiaowangqing guerrilla zone.

His leadership for arming all the people and turning the whole country into an impregnable fortress was more strengthened in the middle of the 1990s, when the spearhead of attack of the US and its allies was directed at the DPRK.

From the view that a modern war is an all-people war fought by the entire army and all the people, he defined the paramilitary forces as a flank of the regular armed forces of the nation.

He was always with President **Kim Il Sung**, the pioneer of the building of paramilitary forces, for founding and developing the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards.

Kim Jong Il saw to it that all the people enlisted in the paramilitary forces according to the well-regulated organizational and command system, and that they prepared themselves ideologically, militarily and technically, so that the paramilitary forces could fully discharge their mission and play their role. The Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards organized in every region and unit were organized in a rational way in line with the production activities and occupational features of their members.

As a result, the members could perform the two tasks at the same time as they should - production and defence.

In order to increase the combat efficiency of the paramilitary forces in every way **Kim Jong Il** showed deep concern for the military training of their members.

Kim Jong Il always emphasized that among the members of the paramilitary forces education in the firm conviction in socialism and class education should be intensified and at the same time all of them should be determined to train themselves to be a-match-for-a-hundred combatants like the soldiers of the regular armed forces. Furthermore, he clarified the orientation and methods for completing combat readiness of the paramilitary forces. In the new century he said time and again that the most important thing is that the service personnel and people should have a firm determination to win victory in the fight against the enemy, and that we should be fully prepared for the life-and-death confrontation with the US imperialists with firm conviction in victory.

Kim Jong Il also said that the main emphasis in training should be placed on the defending of their own factories, enterprises, home towns and native places, and explained in detail how to solve the strategic and tactical problems arising in

training.

Thus under his deep concern and leadership trainings by paramilitary forces were conducted with emphasis on perfecting their combat readiness and making their overall preparations for combat.

Kim Jong Il visited many training grounds of the paramilitary forces and encouraged them to more intensified training.

Once he visited a training field located in the northern area and observed the women's training. He said that the socialist military bulwark was an iron wall, for we have such women prepared ideologically and militarily.

When he visited a post on a small islet, he saw women practising their artillery pieces. He congratulated them, and had a souvenir photograph taken with them.

A foreigner, after seeing the military parade of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards held in Pyongyang, expressed his excited feelings as follows, "They call my country a kingdom of women. To that extent, our women have traits superior to men's. That's why we have more women militia commanders than men in number. However, the women's column of this parade put my country's women to shame. I was surprised to see their keen sense of discipline, might of unity and burning loyalty to their Supreme Commander. Once those armed women deliver a volley fire at the US, the self-styled 'superpower', the Americans would surrender soon. The women militia of the DPRK is a world example."

Under the deep concern of **Kim Jong Il**, the paramilitary forces of the DPRK held their own parades in Juche 91(2002) to commemorate the 90th birthday of President **Kim Il Sung** and the 70th anniversary of the founding of the KPA, in Juche 97(2008) in celebration of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the DPRK, and in Juche 100(2011) in celebration of the 63rd anniversary of the founding of the DPRK. These parades demonstrated to fullest extent the militant spirit of the paramilitary forces of the DPRK and the single-hearted national power of the country.

Kim Jong Il said that in order to turn the whole country into an impregnable fortress every region of the country should be fortified.

This was based on the scientific judgment that a modern war is characterized by the participation of the powerful weapons with short renewal period, indifference between the rear and front and simultaneous battles in the sky, on the sea and on the land, and so it requires that the overall areas of the country be fortified.

During the period of the “Arduous March” in the middle of the 1990s, when the aggressive attempts of the US and the south Korean puppets to suffocate the DPRK became undisguised, he continued his energetic guidance for the work of turning the whole country into a fortress.

He said to the officials that we had achieved many successes in the past in the work of turning the whole country into a fortress, but we must not rest on the success. He emphasized that as long as new weapons with a big destructive power were being developed continuously, fortifications should be built to be more solid so as to reduce the possible damage from the enemy’s strike.

Once when he examined a fortification on his way of on-site guidance, he emphasized that the means of current strike had become highly modernized, and unless we built strong fortifications, we might be defeated without fighting a proper battle. And he showed them concrete methods for building up the fortification to be effective and convenient for combat action.

One Japanese military commentator said in his comment on the impregnability of the fortifications in the DPRK that it was fully prepared for defending and counterattacking a nuclear strike by the US.

In an interview with a newspaper, the former commander of the US forces in south Korea confessed to the fact that the American troops tested for the first time, with the help of B-2 stealth bomber, the bunkerbuster, the most advanced laser-guided bomb capable of striking deep into the earth, in the Kosovo war in simulation of an emergency on the Korean peninsula and analyzed its effect. He declared that even such a bomb can never be effective in north Korea.

3) Fierce military confrontation

Merciless punishment to the provokers

Korea situated in the Far East of the Euroasiatic Continent is a country small in area and population.

This small country stands in the limelight of the world.

It is because the DPRK is a country in a special circumstance that can be called state of war with the US. It is also because it is one of the fiercest political and military hot spots. And it may be regarded as a mysterious country which confronts with the US, the self-styled “superpower”, on its own terms.

Over the 50 years since he embarked on the road of leadership of the Songun revolution in the early 1960s, **Kim Jong Il** had wisely led the anti-US confrontation of the Korean people.

While commanding the military confrontations from the late 1960s to the middle of the 1970s between the DPRK and the US together with President **Kim Il Sung**, he displayed to full extent his talent as a brilliant military strategist. The world call these confrontations (the US armed spy ship Pueblo Incident in January Juche 57(1968), the large spy plane EC-121 Incident in April 1969 and Panmunjom Incident in August Juche 65(1976) as three rounds of confrontations.

In particular, when the Pueblo Incident broke out, he grasped the prevailing situation, the intention of the enemy, and options of military countermeasures from the General Staff of the KPA. In addition, he suggested the most rational strategy for military strike, and worked out and reported tactical operational plans to President **Kim Il Sung**.

At that time the US mobilized enormous troops in an attempt to attack the

DPRK militarily, and clamoured that they would bomb some place in north Korea and unleash a war. However, in the end they were obliged to submit a letter of apology.

Today the armed spy ship Pueblo is on display as a living historical evidence of those days on the River Taedong in Pyongyang, the capital of the DPRK **Kim Jong Il**'s brilliant art of command is recorded in every page of the 30-year confrontation between the DPRK and the US.

All sorts of annual large-scale military exercises staged by the US on the Korean peninsula had been the main factor, which aggravated the acute military confrontation between the DPRK and the US.

In the true meaning of the word, military exercise is a preliminary war and a test war. It is also the most serious military provocation which can unexpectedly turn into a real war at any moment. History has recorded numerous examples of military exercises going over to real wars.

Since they signed the Korean Armistice Agreement, the US has staged the military exercises annually. In particular, since Juche 65(1976), they had staged the large-scale military joint exercise Team Spirit on an annual basis for 20 years, and later have conducted large-scale nuclear war exercises of different names, other versions of reproduce the Team Spirit war game.

Kim Jong Il penetrated the enemy's military attempts and the nature and weak points of the war exercises and frustrated their schemes by means of brilliant military countermeasures.

In particular, he declared the semi-war state over the whole country when the US threatened the supreme interests of the country and started a large-scale military exercise in Juche 82(1993). The DPRK government drove the enemy into a tight corner by announcing the withdrawal from the NPT.

Kim Jong Il has always encouraged the soldiers to be in full readiness to deliver a heavy blow to the aggressors so that they would never return alive if they invaded the holy land, sky and sea of the DPRK even a 0.01 millimeter.

In June Juche 88(1999), on the West Sea of Korea, a skirmish was fought, the

largest of its kind after the conclusion of the Korean Armistice Agreement.

Insisting on the illegal “northern limit line”, the south Korean authorities provoked a West Sea incident by making a large group of naval vessels intrude into the territorial waters of the DPRK.

The battle group of 40 vessels, consisting of a 4 000-ton roll-on/roll-off vessels, two 2 000-ton destroyers, a 1 000-ton patrol vessel, 20 clippers, supply and rescue vessels attacked the 10 patrol boats of the KPA Navy on regular duty. Within 30 minutes after the battle had started, the KPA vessels destroyed two enemy vessels, damaged 10 vessels and killed one hundred soldiers.

Thereafter, the KPA sailors successfully defeated the enemy’s continued military provocations on the West Sea of Korea several times.

In Juche 99(2010), in disregard of the repeated warnings of KPA, the enemy on Yonphyong Islet provoked a military clash by firing guns at the territorial waters of the DPRK. This time, too, they paid dearly for the provocation.

Such a victory has been achieved not only at sea, but also in the sky and on the land.

Frustrated nuclear fuss by the US

Today, the politico-military confrontation between the DPRK and the US can be typified by a nuclear confrontation between them.

Now the international community is commenting that this nuclear confrontation between the DPRK and the US is one of the severest political and diplomatic warfare. However, it is not merely a political and diplomatic confrontation, but a war without gunshot, a fierce military confrontation.

In the present situation, in which more scrupulous the high-handedness and arbitrariness of the US is growing more undisguised and its aggression against other states and nations is increasing on the basis of the “logic of power”, politics separated from the military and diplomacy without the backing of strong military power are none other than a pipe dream. In this sense, it can be said that politics, diplomacy and military strength form an integral whole nowadays.

The nuclear confrontation between the DPRK and the US is no exception. This confrontation had assumed a military aspect from the outset. It originated as a link in the whole chain of the Korean war in the 1950s and the subsequent military confrontations between the DPRK and the US over half a century, as the culmination of the politico-military confrontations.

The conclusion of “Agreement On Reconciliation, Nonaggression and Cooperation and Exchange between North and South”, “Joint Declaration On the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula”, the nuclear safeguards agreement between the DPRK and IAEA and several other practical measures and moves took place in the early 1990s to remove the military tension between the north and south of Korea, achieve peaceful reunification and denuclearize the Korean peninsula. Suddenly, however, the US, picking a quarrel with the DPRK’s peaceful nuclear activities which met the demands of international law, instigated some elements in the IAEA to insist on the discrepancy between the initial report on the total stock of nuclear materials presented by the DPRK and their own measurement to demand for “special inspection” of two military sites in the DPRK.

And backpedaling its previous promise that it would not threaten the DPRX with nuclear weapons and would cancel the annual joint Team Spirit military exercise, it announced in January Juche 82(1993) that it would resume the war game, and enlisted 200 000 troops and the means of nuclear attack. It even put into effect the command system of nuclear weapons.

At that time, in order to safeguard the security of the country and nation, **Kim Jong Il** issued an order in the name of the Supreme Commander of KPA No. 0034 On Proclaiming the Semi-war State on the Whole Country, All the People and the Entire Army on March 8, Juche 82(1993).

“...

1. The whole country, all the people and the entire army shall, on March 9, Juche 82(1993), switch to a state of war readiness.

2. All the soldiers of the three services of the Korean People's Army - the land, naval and air forces - and of the Korean People's Security Forces, and all the members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards shall display high revolutionary vigilance and closely observe every move by the enemy, and shall be fully ready for action to crush the enemy at a stroke should they attack.

3. All the people shall equip themselves full with our Party's Juche-oriented view on war and, with a hammer or a sickle in one hand and a rifle in the other, produce a great upswing in socialist economic construction.”

He ordered manoeuvring by large-scale striking forces of the KPA to cope with the enemy's entrance into an action stage of the joint military exercise. The government of the DPRX issued a statement, declaring the country's withdrawal from the NPT.

After the statement was made public, a diplomat of the DPRX, at a press conference, said to journalists from home and abroad, “We have a solid foundation on which to cope with complicated situations, and we are prepared politically and militarily. We are led by President **Kim Il Sung** and General **Kim Jong Il**, Supreme Commander of KPA. We also have a great party, the might of

single-hearted unity of the leader, the Party and the masses, a solid independent national economy and a mighty military strength. Based on this, we can surely say that we can cope with any offensive or pressure from the enemy.”

At the first-round talks held in New York from June 2 to June 11, Juche 82(1993), the head of the US delegation threatened that if the DPRK did not reenter the treaty, it would cause a “tragic situation in north Korea” and “unfortunate circumstances”. The head of the DPRK delegation immediately responded, saying “We already expected the launch of US missiles when we were quitting the NPT”. He meant, that his country was ready for a war. At the second-round talks, when the US threatened the DPRK with international “pressure” and “sanctions”, the DPRK clarified its principled stand through a statement of the Vice-Minister of the Ministry of the People’s Armed Force on November 3 in which he made it clear that his country would to dialogue with dialogue and to war with war.

This stand was invariably maintained at the third-round talk. The DPRK proved that their statement was not an empty talk by test-firing missiles openly.

On December 17, Juche 83(1994), OH-58A/C, a reconnaissance helicopter of the US forces, intruded in the territorial sky of the DPRK, as far as Ipho-ri, Kumgang County, more than 7 kilometers away from the Military Demarcation Line.

The helicopter, belonging to the air corps of the US 8th Army, was covered by special shellproof materials. It was nicknamed Skycat as that kind of helicopters had never been shot down during the Gulf War while they were carrying out their missions of surveillance, guide and reconnaissance.

The plane was brought down by a single shot by a soldier of KPA who was carrying out guard duty. As a result, one pilot was killed while the other one was captured.

On receiving the report, **Kim Jong Il** said, **“The shooting down of the US helicopter at a single shoot by the KPA practically displayed that our declaration that we would never tolerate any invasion of the enemy into our**

territory, our territorial sky and our territorial waters is not an empty talk and it was a decisive punishment against the US aggressors who are conducting moves to provoke a new war against our Republic behind the DPRK-US talks.”

In Juche 83(1994) when the marathon talks between the DPRK and the US were being held with no fruit, the US government dispatched former President Carter to the DPRK to deliver a request of the Clinton Administration for resuming the talks and on October 20, the then US President Clinton sent a letter, assuring the provision of light-water reactor power plants to the DPRK and alternative energy, to **Kim Jong Il**, addressing him as the “supreme leader of the DPRK”.

The following day a framework agreement between the DPRK and the US was signed, in which the US promised to provide the DPRK with light-water reactor power plants of 2 MW(e) capacity (at the cost of about 4 billion US dollars) and 500,000 tons of heavy oil annually by a target date of Juche 92(2003), reduce barriers to trade and investment, open a liaison office and establish state relations.

This drew down a curtain on the nuclear confrontation between the DPRK and the US.

Kim Jong Il, in the following confrontations with the US, led the Korean people to safeguard the dignity of their country and nation with a harder line against the ever-more increasing pressure of the US.

5. Peerless Patriot

No word is more sacred than “patriotism” and no title is more precious than “patriot”.

Treasuring his homeland and devoting his all to the cause of patriotism, **Kim Jong Il** made undying achievements to be remembered by the Korean people for all ages.

For this reason, the Koreans praise him as a peerless patriot and cherish the loving memory of him.

1) **Lofty idea of love for the country and people**

Country and nation enshrined deep in heart

Kim Jong Il who valued the country and nation most worked tirelessly for their bright future.

He kept a unique view on the country which **Kim Il Sung** had liberated from imperialist rule.

This view began to be formed from his childhood and was established in his university days. In those days, he established a view of seeing the country not simply in a territorial context, but in socio-political dimensions.

In July Juche 50(1961), while telling the fellow students of **Kim Il Sung** University to actively learn after the patriotic spirit of the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters, he said that they the patriots who loved their country more

than anyone else and described the homeland they had so desired.

The ideal homeland they longed for, he said, was the genuine country of the people, in which they are the masters of the country and everything including fertile land and picturesque rivers and mountains serves them and the true cradle of their life which ensures their genuine freedom and happiness.

On January 14, Juche 72(1983), he said that one's country is not merely one's homeland where one was born and grew, but a place which guarantees not only one's true life but also the well-being of posterity, adding that such a native land without genuine life and happiness cannot be one's country, even though one was born and grew there.

He continued to say to the following effect: Though the Korean people had their homeland where they had been born and grown, they were deprived of their country by the Japanese imperialists and were subjected to every manner of humiliation and insult in the past. They could enjoy a genuine life and happiness, receiving treatment befitting human beings, only after President **Kim Il Sung** won back the independence of the country and provided them with an independent and creative life. Therefore, the Korean people cannot lead a happy life even a moment and their eternal prosperity is unthinkable of apart from the President.

Giving a definition to a country, he said, **“For our people, the country is the President, and the President is just the country.”**

As he had such a view on his country, he loved so much the country and people the President had won back and put a premium on, and devoted his all to implementing the behests of the President.

Kim Jong Il had also a scientific view on nation.

His painstaking search for a scientific view on nation and the issue of nation began on a full scale when he was studying at **Kim Il Sung** University. In those days, he got a scientific insight into the social group of nation through the study of the President's works and Marxist classics. After graduation he discovered the essential points of the issue of nation in the course of leading the Korean revolution.

One day in October Juche 49(1960), while discussing with students about the distinguishing features of a nation, he logically analysed the limitations of the preceding theories, which characterized a nation by the community of mental qualities expressed in the four common features, namely the community of language, territory, economic life and culture and defined the issue of nation as a historical category formed in the age of capitalism.

He said, **“The major characteristic features of a nation are the common features of stock, language and territory and among them the community of stock and language is the most important in characterizing a nation.”**

On the basis of the theoretical ground, he concentrated all his thoughts and energy to the theoretical elucidation of the issue of nation, which was the prerequisite for the proper solution of the question of nation in all countries.

The issue of nation is just the fundamental issue of the destiny and the life of nation.

At a talk with officials and creative and performing artists in the field of literature and the arts on May 23, Juche 81(1992), **Kim Jong Il** said that **Kim Il Sung** had raised the question of the destiny of the ruined Korean nation under Japanese military rule and given a profound artistic answer to it in the plays *An Jung Gun Shoots Ito Hirobumi*, *Blood at an International Conference*, *The Flower Girl*, *The Sea of Blood* and *The Fate of a Self-defence Corps Man* which he had written in the period of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle. And continued, **“The multi-part film The Nation and Destiny, by following this brilliant tradition, fully embodies our Juche-oriented outlook on the nation, according to which independence is its life and soul and all fellow countrymen should unite to advocate and realize national independence and achieve the nation’s common prosperity.”**

Independence is the life and soul of a nation-this was the essence of his view on nation and for this viewpoint, he could be a patriot who devoted his whole life to the cause of providing the country and people with prosperity and well-being.

My country and nation are best

Kim Jong Il always kept deep in his mind the idea that his country and his nation are best. He firmly believed that the greatness of the DPRK and the Korean nation is attributable to the greatness of President **Kim Il Sung**. This was by no means a simple logical conclusion of abstract thinking.

In retrospect, it was President **Kim Il Sung** who saved the destiny of the country and nation which had been reduced to a colony of the Japanese imperialists just because they had no wise leader and who developed the into a socialist country and powerful nation dignified with independence.

From olden times, Korea has been a beautiful country with good scenery. That scenery has remained unchanged. However, due to the Japanese occupation of the country, the Korean people were subjected to harsh slavery and compelled to leave their homeland with the beautiful scenery for alien lands. At that time, the natural beauty of their homeland did not bring them joy and pride, but sorrow and resentment of a ruined nation.

That is why, **Kim Jong Il** often told people that whenever they see the country's beautiful scenery they should remember how Korea could be the land of morning calm and the most beautiful place to live at which the world people admire, noting that the country is so precious as President **Kim Il Sung** had won back its independence through his 20-year-long bloody struggle and made the land of beautiful scenery the possession of the people and the country is shining more beautifully as the President devoted his whole life to developing it into the people's paradise.

He once told an official that though Korea was small in territory, the DPRK and the Korean people prided themselves on being a great country and great people as they were led by the President.

During his 20-odd-day visit to the Russian Federation in the summer of Juche

90(2001), the memory of his country was always kept deep in his mind.

Telling one of his entourage to return to the homeland by air on the train heading for Omsk, he said that the official was luckier than him as the official would leave for the homeland where the President was though it was a long way off for him to return home that he missed the President, the people and the rivers and mountains of his homeland, though it was less than a week since he had left the homeland.

That was only the fifth day after he had left home. Referring to his impressions of Russia visit on August 23 Juche 90(2001) after returning home, he said, **“I have never forgotten my country and people in the whole period of my Russia visit. Traveling abroad for a long time made me long for my country and people so much. I could not but keep thinking of our dear homeland and people. I missed all the dear things in our country.”**

When hearing a song or poem, **Kim Jong Il** liked the one about his country and nation.

When song Pyongyang Is Best was produced, he said in praise of it, **“Though many words of song singing of our homeland and the Korean-nation-first spirit have been written so far, not so many lyrics are as living and philosophical as Pyongyang Is Best.”**

The song has no exaggerative poetic and rhetorical expressions. But it is written in ordinary and everyday words such as field, flower, water, spring, the sun and star which everybody can see, hear and feel at any time, filling the Koreans with the sentiment that their country and nation are best.

That is why he said that the song was really an excellent one that suited the mentality of all the members of the Korean nation and the past and present times that the song would be popular with everyone, be they adults or children, and that they would feel that their country and nation were best even though they eat poor meal. Later he proposed producing The Nation and Destiny with this as a theme song. Thus, the multi-part film came into being, winning great positive response from the Korean people.

It happened in July Juche 44(1955) when **Kim Jong Il** was studying at the then Pyongyang Middle School No. 1.

Students were making insect specimens in the biological laboratory. Soon, some boys began to exchange their specimens, for the specimens of others looked better than theirs, though they were the insects of same species like butterfly and dragonfly.

One of them was wondering about the specimen he received in return, displeased with it. **Kim Jong Il** saw this and told him that if it became habitual to underestimate one's own things, one would always make mistake.

He then told the students that if they liked others' things and styles like this they would be captured by a sense of inferiority that they themselves and their own things were always worse than others and, furthermore lose patriotism and the sense of national pride.

Kim Jong Il liked best the Korean songs which suited the sentiment of the Koreans, Korean paint peculiar to the Korean nation and Korean dance full of national zest. He was also fond of national dish which is fresh and sapid more than other dishes. As he loved his country and nation he specially liked song The Blue Sky over My Country among those sung by the soldiers of the Korean People's Army and saw to it that a concert was given with the song as a theme.

He said, **"Our people can say that our nation is best in the world just because there are the leadership of the great leader and the great Party, the great Juche Idea and the most excellent socialist system."**

He always kept the conviction that the Juche idea which puts forward man as the master of the world and his destiny is best, the Workers' Party of Korea which was built to be a motherly party that serve the people is best and people-centered Korean socialism in which the popular masses are the masters of everything and everything serves them is best.

Backed up by the conviction, Songun politics began to be administered in the DPRK and the country could launch artificial satellites and be a nuclear weapons state.

As to a successful nuclear test in the DPRK, the fellow countrymen in south Korea said with pride, “Great north Korea! The pride of our nation! The nuclear test is the exercise of great self-defence right of the north as a sovereign state with Juche character. Isn’t it stately and above board national defence, not subservient and cowardly to any outside forces? Chairman **Kim Jong Il** of the National Defence Commission is really a man of gut. I congratulate north Korea on possessing nuclear weapon. How wonderful it is for the north, though small in territory to live with dignity, fighting squarely against the US, not losing national pride and sovereignty. Chairman **Kim Jong Il** had done really well. Great north Korea! Brace up! And win! I hope you will do what others cannot. It is the most thrilling, monumental deed since King Tangun founded Korea.”

2) For the building of a thriving country

Plan for the building of a prosperous and powerful country

In the late 1990s when the 20th century which left unprecedented traces in the history of humankind was coming to a close and a new 21st century was beginning to grow light, **Kim Jong Il** inspired the Korean army and people to the drive to build a prosperous and powerful country.

That was the highest respect to President **Kim Il Sung** who had devoted himself throughout his life to this end, as well as an expression of **Kim Jong Il**'s patriotic will to display the honour of the DPRK to the world.

Late in Juche 87(1998), **Kim Jong Il** set it as a militant slogan for the coming year, "Let us glorify this year as a year of a great turn in the building a prosperous and powerful country!"

On January 1, Juche 88(1999) he said that the slogan set forth in the joint editorial of the year, a year of general offensive for bringing about a fresh turn in the building of a thriving country, was very good, adding that the word a prosperous and powerful country is a thriving socialist country with strong national power in which everything thrives and its people live with nothing to envy in the world.

The thriving socialist country of Juche in his plan is a country with strong national power in all fields of ideology, politics, military, the economy and others. It is based on his viewpoint and standpoint that the national power of a socialist thriving country is, in all respects, the strength in the ideological, political, military and economic fields which reliably guarantees the independence of the masses.

Kim Jong Il set the politico-ideological and military strength as the foundation

for national power of a thriving country.

He said: A thriving country is a symbolic expression of a powerful country whose people are united with one thought and will. It means a country with strong national power, in which the political and military strength can be said to be its foundation.

The basic in the building of a prosperous country is the mental strength of the people, that is, the ideological mentality of the army and the people, and, therefore, it is necessary to attach greater importance to the ideological and spiritual aspects than to the material aspect in building a thriving country.

A powerful nation is, in the true sense of the word, a country in which an independent revolutionary ideology reflecting the intrinsic needs of human being most correctly prevails its society and all its people are united on the basis of the ideology; a country which decides its lines and policies on the basis of its right political philosophy and guiding ideology, carries them out on the strength of the masses firmly united as a political force and exercises its sovereignty with dignity in its external relations. Herein lies the first criterion of a thriving nation envisaged by **Kim Jong Il**.

He put forward strong military strength, the fundamental guarantee for defending the destiny of the country and the people, as one of characteristic features of a powerful nation.

That was based on his belief that military strength is the most important point of the national power in the struggle to build socialism against the imperialism and that, if the DPRK has strong military strength, it will be able to carry out the building of a thriving socialist country successfully.

He once said: I desire for nothing but for our people to live well off. Our struggle to build a thriving country is, in the long run, aimed at making the people live a happy life with nothing to envy in the world.

It was the life-long wish of President **Kim Il Sung** to develop the DPRK-into a thriving socialist country where its people live in affluence with nothing to envy in the world.

He had achieved the historic cause of Korea's liberation by leading the anti-Japanese war to victory and built Korea into a socialist state independent, self-sufficient and self-reliant in defence, covering a new road of building a prosperous country for a long period of half a century after liberation.

Remaining true to his will, **Kim Jong Il** conceived a plan for the building of a thriving country and made preparations for it and set this plan as the fighting goal for the Korean people to hit in the new century and their militant slogan.

In the first year of the century he said: I put forward a slogan of building a thriving socialist country in order to add eternal lustre to the socialist country founded by the President. The plan for the building a thriving country is good for its clear goal. A powerful nation has nothing to do with the size of its population or its territory. The building of a thriving country is the ideal and goal of our Party and people, so we should advance under this slogan.

From his viewpoint that the drive is a struggle for the Korean people, as its masters, to build a prosperous country with their own efforts, technologies and natural resources, he set self-reliance as the key to open the gates of a thriving country.

He said: There might be shortage of many things and lots of hardships, but we cannot settle them in reliance on others. We should by no means be embroiled in the wind of "reform" and "opening" trumpeted by the imperialists, as it is the road to a national ruin.

He kindled the torch of a new revolutionary upsurge while visiting the Chollima Iron and Steel Complex on December 24, Juche 97(2008). He taught the workers there to flare up the torch in the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance, adding that as long as there is an inexhaustible creative power of the Korean people habituated to self-reliance despite manifold difficulties and trials, the building of a thriving nation will surely emerge victorious.

In January Juche 98(2009) he underscored again the need to continue to uphold the slogan "Self-reliance is the only way out!" and to kindle the torch of the revolutionary upsurge and open the gates of a thriving nation with the spirit of

self-reliance.

So he called upon workers of those units he visited to believe in their own efforts as self-reliance is the best way. He was very pleased whenever he saw a creation of self-reliance and valued even a small spark of it above everything else, encouraging it to blaze up across the country.

He visited the Wonsan Youth Power Station in January Juche 98(2009) and expressed great satisfaction over the fact that the people in Kangwon Province proved in practice the great vitality of the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance.

During his visit to the construction site of the Tanchon Port in Juche 100(2011), he also highly praised its builders as they gave full play to the spirit of self-reliance.

He put forward it as the strategic lines to attach foremost importance to ideology, army, science and technology in the drive to build a thriving country.

He said: In case the most revolutionary idea and arms of ours are combined with the latest science and technology, the great changes will be made in the revolution and construction, developing our country into an invincible powerful state and a genuine paradise of the people where everything thrives.

Thanks to the wise leadership of **Kim Jong Il**, the DPRK is now showing its true appearance as a thriving country.

Kindling the flame of the drive to break through the cutting edge

Kim Jong Il raised the national power of the DPRK to a high level.

Noting that the word of breaking through the cutting edge is not just for the people in machine-building sector, he stressed that it is his intention to inspire all the participants in the drive to build a thriving nation to launch a general offensive to push back the frontiers in their fields.

Secure the world supremacy by making a leap forward in all sectors with a great ambition and ideal — this was the target he set | when arousing the army and people of the DPRK.

On June Juche 98(2009) **Kim Jong Il** said: We should set goals audaciously so as to shake the world with a great ambition and ideal not to not merely follow the developed countries but to catch them up and stand in the van of the era, and create the speed of a fresh upsurge, skipping in one step what others reached in hundreds and thousands step.

Korea in the past was forced to undergo ordeals as a victim of outside forces as it lagged behind others with its weak national power. Such a painful history can never be repeated. To this end, we should aim high and go ahead of the world. This was his firm determination when kindling the flame of the drive to break through the cutting edge.

So, he set the drive to break through the cutting edge as the main form of struggle in the building of a prosperous socialist country.

Even a politico-ideological power and a military giant cannot be called a full-fledged thriving nation in case it falls behind others in the fields of the economy, science and culture. And the independent politics and the enormous military strength can be solid only when they are supported by strong national economic power and latest science and technology.

From this viewpoint, he devoted his heart and soul to push back the frontiers in

the fields of the economy and science.

On one occasion during his trip to on-site guidance, he said: We should hold fast to science and technology as the lifeline in the building of an economic giant. Our independent national economy, when put on a modern and scientific footing based on up-to-date science and technology, will be able to fully display its superiority and vitality. In the era of the knowledge-based economy which is making rapid progress by the comprehensive development of science and technology, the massive accumulation of knowledge and its active application, the pioneers of pushing back the frontiers of science and technology will be the conquerors and victors in the future. Only those who hold fast to science and technology will be able to conquer the future.

Regarding the development of science and technology as an issue decisive of the destiny of the country, he said that scientific progress can never be kept still even though a factory is forced out of business under such difficult and trying hardships and sparked off the flame of giving great importance to science and technology and breaking through the cutting edge.

Credit for the development of Korean-style CNC technology, an industrial revolution of the 21st century in the DPRK, goes to the leadership of **Kim Jong Il**.

In the mid-1990s when factories in the DPRK began to cease production one after another due to manifold hardships caused from natural calamities coupled with the greatest national sorrow, the demise of President **Kim Il Sung**, and even a handful of rice was at a premium, he matured his plan of breaking through the cutting edge of science and technology at the shortest possible time.

However, he could not allow himself to talk about the word of breaking through the cutting edge under such a grave situation as the “Arduous March”.

At that time he himself shared a bowl of gruel with others for his worry about the people, so he gave a serious consideration to making a decision about it.

Looking back on those days later, he said that never had there been such a time of manifold difficulties and trials in his life as in those days.

The history of developing CNC technology in the DPRK started at that time.

He experienced indescribable mental sufferings as he had to make a decision to use money to that end in the period when all the people were fighting a life-and-death struggle to safeguard the country with their belts tightened, not at the flourishing time of the country.

One day in October Juche 100(2011) in the last period of his life, he recollected that still vivid in his mind were those memories that during the “Arduous March” he had made his long journey through snowstorm to Jagang Province with a suitcase carrying the country’s whole money in his car and specified the way to realizing CNC-based modernization to the officials ignorant of even the term CNC.

While President **Kim Il Sung** had carried out the socialist industrialization in a brief period of 14 years by inspiring the Korean people to advance at the speed of Chollima after the Korean war, **Kim Jong Il** attained a new stage of industrializing cutting-edge technologies in the new century with CNC technology as its core in a matter of ten-odd years, relying on the foundations of the independent economy established by the former.

One day late in Juche 98(2009) **Kim Jong Il** said: I cannot keep back my tears whenever I listen to the song Break through the Cutting Edge. The song reminds me of the never-to-be-forgotten memories of the past. This song is a very good one that reminds us of the history of our revolution and convinces us of the bright future. And it is all the more impressive as it brings back the unforgettable memories.

National dignity exalted with faith and will

The period of over a decade from the late 1990s up to now of the new century is characterized by a historic course for which **Kim Jong Il** fully demonstrated to the world the dignity and honour of the Korean nation with his faith and will.

In the closing years of the 20th century the DPRK was in the limelight of the world politics.

The United States and its allied forces directed their spearhead against socialism to the DPRK and left no stone unturned to stifle it at any cost.

At this crucial time **Kim Jong Il** defended socialism by dint of his original Songun politics and turned the DPRK into a manufacturer and launcher of an artificial satellite as well as a nuclear state.

The history of each country and nation is precisely a history of fulfilling its aspiration and desire to build a powerful country. It is a common aspiration of all countries and nations to make them powerful.

It can be said to be a miraculous event that the DPRK raised its position as a powerful country by developing such sophisticated science and technology as the space science and technology and nuclear technology on its own efforts in a matter of ten years.

It is well-known that the development of an artificial satellite is possible only in a few developed countries that is allegedly dominating the space science and technology.

In view of the fact that an earth satellite itself is an integral whole of advanced science and technology and that its development requires a colossal amount of fund and labour, it is almost absolutely impossible to think about it without enormous economic potentialities.

But **Kim Jong Il** was firmly determined to venture to develop it with the efforts, technologies and resources of the DPRK.

He took steps to organize a competent research team and gave detailed

instructions on all problems arising in the development of an artificial satellite ranging from selecting its research seed, designing, manufacturing and launching.

At last in September Juche 87(1998), *Kwangmyongsong No. 1*, the first Korean-made satellite, was launched into the space. What was miraculous was the fact that it accurately entered into its orbit at one try.

A Russian newspaper *The Patriot* wrote: The United States and its vassal forces bent all their efforts for decades to effect their policy of sanctions, blockade, isolation and suffocation against the DPRK but, far from being weakened, the latter grew stronger. It would be badly painful for them to approve the reality of the DPRK which raised its position as a space power.

A Jordan newspaper wrote: The DPRK's earth satellite launch drove the Western world into that state of insanity and unreasonableness. It is because the DPRK succeeded in its satellite launch completely on its own efforts without relying on any technologies of the West.

Following the successful launch of *Kwangmyongsong No. 1*, another artificial satellite *Kwangmyongsong No. 2* went up into the sky successfully on April 5, Juche 98(2009).

Kim Jong Il also paid deep attention to developing nuclear technology.

Nuclear technology was of great significance in developing the nation's cutting-edge science and technology in an all-round way and promoting the modernization of electric power industry.

The DPRK directed great efforts to the project of possessing a nuclear deterrent in the face of constant nuclear threat by the United States.

In today's world, nuclear possession is one of the criteria that cannot be disregarded in evaluating the might of a nation.

Nowadays, it is a crucial matter of how much influence a nation can exert in the international arena whether it has nuclear capabilities or not. The cost to produce and maintain nuclear weapons is, in fact, equivalent to the sum of national incomes of some small countries.

The course of the DPRK's possession of nuclear technology was not smooth due

to the foreign forces' obstructive manoeuvres as well as technological bottlenecks. But the Korean people braved all these hardships, thus succeeding in underground nuclear test on October 9, Juche 95(2006).

Foreign Policy Focus, the official organ of the US Institute of International Political Issues, commented in its editorial that Bush had treated the DPRK roughly in military and diplomatic aspects from the outset of his tenure of office, thus driving it into having a war deterrent.

A foreign publication wrote: The former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, while speaking about Stalin before the House of Representatives, said that he took over Russia, a backward country which did farming with hoes, and handed the USSR armed with atomic bombs over to the next generation, and whatever was being said about him history and people would not forget such a man. **Kim Jong Il**, Chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission, is now winning fame as a world leader by raising his country onto such a position.

Another publication carried a comment that the nuclear test of the DPRK shook the world as the top news in the 21st century and that Bush's theory of "axis of evil" and "preemptive strike" to erase the socialist Korea from the world map was frustrated by the counterattack of the DPRK.

On May 25, Juche 98(2009), the DPRK successfully carried out another underground nuclear test. The test conducted on the basis of a new high explosive force and control technology made it possible for the DPRK to further build up its nuclear capabilities and solve more satisfactorily the scientific and technological problems arising in steadily developing the nuclear technology.

The two rounds of successful nuclear tests of the DPRK were the brilliant fruition of boundless patriotism of **Kim Jong Il**, thus resulting in developing his country into a nuclear state.

A politician in Europe once said that the present-day world is divided into two parts, a lord possessed of nuclear weapons and a serf playing the role of infantry.

It is regarded a universal "law" that the position of a nation which succeeded in its nuclear test changes dramatically overnight.

The former Soviet Union could become a superpower vying with the United States thanks to its success in nuclear test and its nuclear possession. The same can be said of the Great Britain. When France was successful in its initial nuclear test, the then President de Gaulle was said to have cheered “Hurrah to France! This morning France has become a more powerful and dignified country.”

Kim Jong Il said that now Songun Korea would remain secure from any enemy invasion and no one would dare provoke us as we have not only the great guiding idea of the revolution and the single-hearted unity but nuclear deterrence.

A Chinese newspaper commented in an article “Korea’s Nuclear Test Viewed from the Eyes of a Chinese Technician”:

Through its nuclear test Korea has more to gain than to lose. In view of profits and losses, it has more gains and fewer losses. It will sharply cut its investment into conventional weapons and then direct more resources to the economic development.”

A south Korean Internet posted an article, which read: North Korea is a nuclear state! The infinite meaning contained in this sentence will use magic to bring infinite prosperity and happiness to north Korea. There might be some trials and difficulties, but from now on they will be short-lived and temporary. North Korea has ranked among the great powers. It is ushering in a golden opportunity for a new history of the nation.

This is a high appraisal of the great achievements performed by **Kim Jong Il** in the history of Korean nation.

3) Regarding national reunification as his lifelong cause

Noble will for reunification

It was on a winter night on December 23, Juche 63(1974), a day just prior to the birthday of anti-Japanese heroine Kim Jong Suk.

Kim Jong Il told the officials that tomorrow would be his mother's 57th birth anniversary and the day called to his mind her earnest request in her lifetime that he should delight President **Kim Il Sung** by achieving Korea's reunification without fail.

He went on: Whenever I recollect my mother, I recall her flawless loyalty to the President and her image devoting her all in order to bring pleasure of national reunification to him. She always asked me earnestly that I should reunify the country so as to bring pleasure of national reunification to the President who had waged hard-fought struggle on Mt. Paektu. But we have failed to do so up to now. Whenever I think of her, it seems that she reprimands why you, still today, fail to bring pleasure of national reunification to the President.

Korea's reunification was the greatest wish and life-long concern of President **Kim Il Sung** and Kim Jong Suk.

What was stamped on **Kim Jong Il**'s memories while developing his patriotic spirit under the care of his parents were their images of worrying about the issue of national reunification.

Korea imprinted in his mind was a land of three thousand ri as beautiful as a silk-embroidery extending from Mt. Paektu down to Mt. Halla.

Korea which his father President **Kim Il Sung** had seen on his operations map during the fierce anti-Japanese war was also one Korea, not Korea divided into two.

The President who had missed the homeland so much for 20 years made a triumphant return home, but it was Korea, divided into north and south. He was indescribably depressed as he had fought fierce battles, holding sway over the vast Manchurian plain for decades for Korea's liberation.

In September Juche 38(1949), Kim Jong Suk, the closest revolutionary comrade-in-arms of President **Kim Il Sung**, breathed her last, picturing one reunified Korea.

So, **Kim Jong Il** once said in retrospect that seeing at his early age the President feeling heartbroken for national division, he wanted to grow up fast so as to achieve the country's reunification at an earliest date and give its delight to the latter.

The concern of his parents troubled him more deeply as the days went by. Witnessing the sufferings and misfortunes from national division and thinking deeply of the social development and the destiny of the country and the nation, he was firmly resolved to take over himself the great cause to put an end to national division and reunify the country without fail.

In early September Juche 51(1962) he said that President **Kim Il Sung**, who had fought for two decades on Mt. Paektu was not taking a single day's rest still today because of the country's reunification, adding that we should relieve his care by achieving reunification without fail whatever difficulties might crop up on the way.

Leading the Korean revolution, he became all the more convinced that the will of his predecessors to reunify the country coincided with the unanimous desire of the nation longing for one Korea and that was precisely the will of the people. He etched the will as his lofty mission in his mind.

He said: Our Korea must be reunified into one. I've always regarded Korea as one but never thought of two Koreas. ... Korea is not two but one forever. "Korea is one!" This is my steadfast will.

The Korean people are a homogeneous nation that has lived on one land with the same blood and one language from time immemorial.' The land on which the

descendents of Tangun have lived through generations was not two but one. Korea, not only from the geographical concept but from the socio-historical one as well, is one that can never exist otherwise. It was by no means from the desire of the Korean people that their nation got separated and the territory divided. It was the outcome of domination and interference by outside forces.

“Genuine patriotism is manifested in the struggle for national reunification.” “National reunification is precisely patriotism and the struggle to this end is the greatest patriotic one.”

These were based on **Kim Jong Il**’s thoroughgoing standpoint on one Korea.

He said: The people indifferent to national reunification are those who have not a piece of patriotism; they are not eligible for membership of the Korean nation nor have the right to live in Korea. Only those who always think of the cause of national reunification, regarding national division as the greatest suffering, can be said to have patriotism and only those who devote themselves for the country’s reunification are patriots and revolutionaries.

On several occasions he stressed earnestly: It would be a serious crime to the history and the nation if our generation hands over two Koreas to the coming generation. Who on earth will achieve the reunification of the country but for our generation that directly suffered from the tragedy of national division and deeply experienced the miseries and pains therefrom? Without achieving the national reunification we cannot say that we carried out the Korean revolution.

In particular, such conviction and will hardened into a steadfast sense of obligation to carry out the instructions of President **Kim Il Sung** to reunify the country after his demise.

In July Juche 84(1995), **Kim Jong Il** met Pak Yong Gil, widow of Rev. Mun Ik Hwan, who visited Pyongyang to attend the memorial service marking the first death anniversary of the President.

He told her that he was deeply moved to hear that she came to Pyongyang with the glasses and ring her husband had worn when meeting with President **Kim Il Sung**, with a feeling that their couple pay tribute to the bier of the

President, so he regarded her coming as not alone but with her husband, along with greetings of south Korean people to the President.

And he went on: I miss the south Korean people. I'll dedicate myself for the reunification of the country. **Kim Jong Il** exists for the country's reunification, the life-long wish of the President.

At dawn on November 24, Juche 85(1996) **Kim Jong Il** visited Panmunjom. He first went to the monument inscribed with President **Kim Il Sung**'s signature for national reunification.

Noting that the whole life of the President was the one for the reunification of the country except the period of the anti-Japanese armed struggle, he continued: We should reunify the country at any cost as desired by the President. He said the greatest gift for our people is national reunification, so I will reunify the country without fail and hand over the reunified country to our people as a gift.

With the elapse of years, he crystallized his will to this end into a great programme for national reunification by publishing such works *Let's carry out the instructions of President **Kim Il Sung** on national reunification!* and *Let's reunify our country independently and peacefully by achieving the great unit of the whole nation!*

In his works he defined the three principles of national reunification, the 10-point program of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country, the plan for the founding of the Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo clarified by President **Kim Il Sung** as the three pillars and three charters for national reunification which comprehensively systematized the basic principles and methods for reunification, and put forward the five-point policy for the overall national unity to be favoured by all the fellow countrymen.

Kim Jong Il who had devoted himself for the reunification of Korea passed away, failing to see the reunified country.

But the Korean people will surely realize his patriotic cause of reunification, upholding the three charters for national reunification and the five-point policy for the overall national unity advanced by him.

Opening an era of reunification by our nation itself

As one said that the spirit of Tangun's nation is in Arirang, the Korean nation is called Tangun's nation or Arirang nation. It is because the Korean people would always sing a song of Arirang not only in joy but in sorrow. Thus, Arirang is a word so familiar to the Koreans throughout their long history.

In the early 20th century, however, the Korean people could not help singing a song of grief-stricken Arirang sorrowfully, as they suffered the bitter lot of slavery forced by the Japanese imperialists, feudal worshippers of big powers and traitors to the Korean nation, an unprecedented thing in their 5 000-year-long history.

Now in the 21st century such a Korean nation is singing in chorus a song of Arirang for reunification.

This eye-opening reality is the result of the wise leadership of **Kim Jong Il** who opened an era of great national unity for national reunification with the ideal of By Our Nation Itself.

In Juche 94(2005), the mass gymnastic and art performance Arirang was given in May Day Stadium in Pyongyang on the occasion of 60th anniversary of the Worker's Party of Korea. "Pyongyang visiting groups" from south Korea enjoyed it everyday. In the stadium, the word "We are" shouted by the north Korean people was responded by the south Korean people with the word "One", and "Country" with "Reunification". This vividly showed the ardent aspiration of the Korean people for reunification.

Around this time, a south Korean woman was delivered other baby in the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital, the first of kind in the history of Korea's division for six decades.

She was Hwang Son, a spokeswoman for Reunification Solidarity, who had visited Pyongyang in Juche 87(1998) in the capacity as a representative of the south Korean Federation of University Student Councils (Hanchongryon) under the South Headquarters of the Pan-national Alliance of Youth and Students for Korea's

Reunification (Pomchonghangnyon). On the evening of October 10 while enjoying the performance, she began to have sudden labour pains, so she was taken to the hospital. At that time she came to Pyongyang together with her mother-in-law. She gave an easy birth to a daughter at 10 o'clock in less than one hour after being in hospital. All the fellow countrymen blessed her future.

Noting that she had the fortune to give birth to her baby girl in the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital, Hwang Son thanked to the June 15 Declaration that produced such a dream-like happy event and said that the June 15 Declaration would surely bring about a reality of national reunification. After returning home, their couple named their baby girl “Yun Kyo Re”, meaning that the Korean nation is one and the same.

Such reality began to be witnessed already in Juche 89(2000).

The leadership of **Kim Jong Il** who insisted that the reunification of Korea should be achieved by the Korean nation itself on the principle of national independence resulted in producing a stirring reality to open up a June 15 era for independent reunification, a new era of “By Our Nation Itself”.

One day **Kim Jong Il** said to the officials that a change should be made in Juche 89(2000) and that we should hold high the banner of independence and great national unity in the reunification-oriented movement, on the basis of the idea that our life is independence and independence leads precisely to reunification.

On January 29, Juche 89(2000), he said: These days, the south side is giving wide publicity to a “sunshine policy”, and we should make the people distinguish which sunshine is for the good of the people. The sunshine of independence is genuine, so the people wish for the sunshine of independence and await it.

In retrospect, officials in those days thought that an inter-Korean summit meeting to be held at great pains would have to be cancelled of its own accord because of the sudden death of President **Kim Il Sung**.

But **Kim Jong Il**, on July 9, Juche 83(1994) right after the announcement of the news on the death of the President, instructed them to send a message of moratorium on the summit meeting to the south Korean authorities.

At last in April Juche 89(2000), a north-south April 8 agreement was made public, in which both sides agreed to have a meeting between the leaders of the north and the south and hold summit talks in Pyongyang in the upcoming June.

On June 13 Juche 89(2000), the meeting of the leaders of the north and the south began with the unexpected welcome by **Kim Jong Il** at Pyongyang Airport. It was a historic meeting, the first of its kind in the 55-year-long division of Korea.

On June 14, **Kim Jong Il** had face-to-face talks with Kim Dae Jung, south Korean president. Noting that it is recommended to draw up a document like a sort of declaration which will give 70million Koreans a hope for reunification and optimism about the future as this is their first meeting, he underscored the need to solve the question of inter-Korean relations independently by their concerted efforts.

Both sides should recognize the realities where different ideas and systems exist in the north and south of Korea and reunify the country by the formula of federation based on the co-existence of the two different systems, he suggested, adding that, in order to come to an agreement on the way to reunification with ease, they should make joint efforts after making a common way to reunification as the low-level federation proposed by the north and the “commonwealth system” proposed by the south have common features.

The four-hour-long talks discussed such important outstanding issues for realizing inter-Korean negotiations and reunification as achieving reunification independently by pooling efforts of the Korean nation, exchange of visiting groups of families and relations separated in the north and the south, realization of cooperation and exchange in different sectors and resumption of dialogues between the authorities of both sides.

This is the how the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration signed by the leaders of the north and the south came into being for the first time in the history of Korea’s division.

The basic spirit of this declaration is independence of the nation, which is implicated in an expression of “By Our Nation Itself.” The fundamental ideal of

“By Our Nation Itself” is to realize the long-cherished desire of Koreans for reunification by the efforts of the Korean nation itself on the principle of independence in the 2000s.

Kim Dae Jung, too, hailed this proposal as an “excellent idea for the nation”.

Kim Jong Il said to Kim Dae Jung: If a joint declaration is made public, it will give another shock to the world community, and they will say that the north and south of Korea finally found their correct theme. What is important is to effect the word “By Our Nation Itself”, its highlight.

The excitement of the world public ran high just as **Kim Jong Il** had said.

Chinese Xinhua News reported it was unprecedented to reach a detailed agreement on the agenda just in one day. CNN and other US mass media headlined this agreement as an ever-quickest one. Mass media of Japan and other countries around the world, too, gave daily publicity to the Pyongyang summit meeting and the joint declaration as the top event in the year of Juche 89(2000).

On June 16, Juche 89(2000), Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Communist Party of China, and Putin, president of Russia, sent a telegraphic message and a personal letter each to **Kim Jong Il** in congratulation of the Pyongyang summit meeting. US President Bill Clinton issued a statement hailing the joint declaration as a promising start for peace and reconciliation on the Korean peninsula. The Japanese government expressed its intention to improve the relationship with the DPRK, highly appreciating the announcement of the joint declaration as a “great event in history”.

After the publication of the North-South Joint Declaration, heads of states and governments, and political parties and organizations of over 180 countries expressed their full support to it, welcoming its adoption as a world-shaking event, a brilliant fruition resulted from **Kim Jong Il**’s courageous decision based on his of the country and the nation and a decisive opportunity which opened up a bright prospect of Korea’s reunification and the gate of reconciliation and unity to the Korean nation.

Later in October Juche 96(2007), the second inter-Korean summit meeting was

held in Pyongyang, producing the October 4 Declaration, an action program for implementing the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration. This gave strong impetus again to the struggle for national reunification.

At that time, **Kim Jong Il** said to Roh Moo Hyun and his party that, as now was a new era, it was impossible to develop the inter-Korean relations to suit the requirements of the new era if the outdated concept and remains were abandoned. His remarks won unanimous sympathy of them. He also suggested naming the title of the declaration as the “Declaration for Development of North-South Relations, and Peace and Prosperity”, clearly reflecting its theme.

As the ideal of By Our Nation Itself embodied **Kim Jong Il**’s independent idea of loving the country and the nation and his will for reunification, it proved its vitality with each passing day.

In August Juche 89(2000), **Kim Jong Il** met the delegation of south Korean pressmen. At that time, they asked him how about making joint venture and collaboration with other countries in the field of animation and computer software programming as the DPRK draws level with the world. He answered that it would be advisable to make such joint venture and collaboration within our own nation, instead of helping other countries. When they asked his opinion about the suggestion of the President of the International Olympic Committee who invited him and Kim Dae Jung to Sydney Olympic Games, he replied that he would rather visit Seoul to share his greetings with the fellow countrymen in the south than go to Sydney to play a role as an “actor” there. Such remarks resulted from his ideal of By Our Nation Itself.

After the two rounds of the inter-Korean summit meetings, as many as 100 rounds of talks and contacts were held between the authorities of both sides, and an agreement on re-linking the severed railways and roads between the north and the south. A sea route from south Korea to Mt. Kumgang was opened up for the first time in the history of Korea’s division for five decades, with the result that the tour of the mountain started. A variety of sports and cultural interchanges were made between the north and the south.

The people of all classes and strata in the north and the south launched new forms of joint struggle for the independent reunification, promoting the nationwide movement for reunification to a high pitch. A north-south workers' rally for reunification and other functions were held, which enabled the people from all walks of life to come and go between the north and the south.

Out of a standpoint of loving the country and the nation and the will for reunification and with broadmindedness, **Kim Jong Il** met many south Koreans, including O Ik Je, a leading figure of the political and religious circles in south Korea, Jong Ju Yong, one of plutocrats in south Korea, Jong Mong Hon, president of Hyundai Asan, Pak Jae Gyu, ex-minister of Ministry of Unification, who had been the chief delegate of the south at the second inter-Korean minister-level talks, Rim Tong Won and Jong Tong Yong, politicians out of office who had been the special envoys from the south, Kim Ryon Ja, a south Korean pop singer, and encouraged them to do work harder for the reunification and prosperity of Korea.

When Roh Moo Hyun died in May Juche 98(2009), **Kim Jong Il** sent a message of condolences to his bereaved family.

He also sent a high-level mourner's visiting group and a wreath in his name when Kim Dae Jung died in August Juche 98(2009). When the cars of the mourner's visiting group from the north came up to the mortuary of Kim Dae Jung, Seoul citizens received them with applause, waving reunification flags and singing a song Our wish is reunification! A woman in her fifties said that a flood of tears streamed down her face at the sight of the big letters of "**Kim Jong Il**".

Lee Myung Bak came into power in south Korea in the wake of Roh Moo Hyun. He flatly denied the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration and the October 4 Declaration and avoided their implementation, thus disheartening all the Koreans who had been full of hope for reunification.

With a standpoint that, if the fellow countrymen are hostile to and stand up with each other, only the Koreans will suffer a loss while the outside forces will fish in troubled waters, **Kim Jong Il** did not step back on the road for achieving peaceful reunification of the country By Our Nation Itself.

As a result, the government, political parties and organizations of the DPRK on January 5, Juche 100(2011) made public a joint statement, in which they put forward four items, proposing to the authorities, political parties and organizations of south Korea to have wide-ranging dialogues and negotiations and discuss and solve all the issues related to the important matters of the nation including detente, peace, reconciliation, unity and cooperation projects.

The statement also stressed the need for the north and the south to carry forward the trend of the June 15 era at any cost so as to add lustre to a new decade of the 21st century as a hopeful era of putting an end to national tragedy, an era of reunification and prosperity.

Though President **Kim Il Sung** and **Kim Jong Il** failed to see a reunified Korea and passed away, its reunification is definite.

Kim Jong Un, supreme leader of the DPRK, will surely build a reunified, thriving Korea by leading the Korean people.

4) Lifetime recorded with patriotic devotion

Let us become roots for the country

True patriotism finds its expression in one's devotion to the country and the people.

Thanks to the self-sacrificing struggle and efforts of those who devote themselves to bring about substantial changes to a society and its people, a country develops and establishes its fame and the people's well-being comes into bloom.

For this reason, people highly praise those who have made tangible contributions to the prosperity of their country as genuine patriots.

The main reason **Kim Jong Il** is being praised as a peerless patriot among the Korean people is that his patriotic devotion was the most ardent one.

As regards his devotion, the Korean people always feel curious about what was the propelling force of his devotion.

Life of a man is a process of revealing his opinion and viewpoint on human life. The viewpoint on and consciousness of life decides not only the whole process of a man's life but every moment of one's life. Either the life of a great man who recorded indelible traces in history or that of an ordinary man who left nothing are based on their opinion and viewpoint on life. Without having a correct outlook on life it is impossible for one to set a right ideal and aim of life and steadily add brilliance to every moment of the whole process of life.

The reason why the lives of prominent figures and great persons well-known in human history are highly appreciated and etched in the minds of the people is that theirs had been based on their unusually noble outlook on life.

On May 23, Juche 81(1992), **Kim Jong Il** said that it was his standpoint to

serve the people and devote himself for them. On January 14, Juche 85(1996), he said that it was his outlook on life to live not merely for today but for tomorrow.

On February 11, Juche 98(2009), an official, in the presence of **Kim Jong Il**, made a resolve to perform feats in the drive to build a thriving country by saying that he would be a leaf of a giant tree.

Kim Jong Il said: I could understand your word to become a leaf of a giant tree. But, from the viewpoint of revolution the gist of which the single-hearted unity of the leader, the party and the masses, the meaning of root is comparably deeper than that of a leaf. A revolutionary should be resolved to become root. Our officials should become roots supporting the country and the revolution like roots of a tree. we can see a giant tree but not its roots. Many people admire at the sight of a huge tree, but few people think of its roots. The roots, whether recognized or not, ceaselessly work for the tree under the ground.... Let's become roots of the revolution - this is the outlook on life our revolutionaries should have today. I will become a stout root of our revolution together with you.

A giant tree what he meant was none other than a prosperous country in the future.

He used to say: I don't care about my skipping meals, bitter cold or backbreaking labour. If our people feel no hungry and cold but lead happy life, I wish nothing more. I will live my whole life as the roots for the people's happiness and the nation's prosperity. I will keep following this road with a smile, burning myself to that end, even though nobody understands my mind. With such a noble outlook on life, he lived his whole life of patriotic devotion for the future.

For the good of his country and people

Looking back on the whole life of **Kim Jong Il**, all his career is recorded with noble traces devoted only to the good of his country and people.

Though he was a great man acknowledged by not only the Korean people but the world people, **Kim Jong Il** dedicated himself to the last moment of his life for the sake of his country and people, in disregard of his exploits.

Even if I may fall down while keeping up such a struggle, my country and people will never forget me forever. I feel uneasy if someone comforts me, until I stop the beating of my heart. I feel satisfaction if only I can devote myself solely for the country and the people - this was his consistent attitude towards life.

The following is a song he favoured singing in his lifetime:

.....

*If nobody understands my mind,
I shall take this road full of hope.*

.....

*If I am buried in frost and snow,
I shall be a flower heralding spring.*

When providing his field guidance to the Kwangbok Area Supermarket in Pyongyang in the last period of his life, he was very unhealthy. His face during his field guidance trip was always all bright smiles. The Korean people, hearing the story about his bad conditions after his death, shed a flood of bitter tears from remorse.

Not a statue of **Kim Jong Il** can be seen in the DPRK, because he kept back erecting it. He saw to it that the statue of President **Kim Il Sung** was set up in different parts of the country and the statues of anti-Japanese martyrs, heroes and patriotic fighters were erected. But he never allowed the suggestion of officials and

people to erect his statue.

After his death, the Korean people, in front of the statue of President **Kim Il Sung**, cried out: “President! General **Kim Jong Il** did not allow us to build a statue or plaster figure of his. What should we do, as we are undutiful children who failed to build a statue of our great fatherly leader!”

If President **Kim Il Sung** had given an answer to them as he had done in his lifetime, he would have said that that was the very **Kim Jong Il**. So, after his passing, the Korean people felt painful in their minds and shed a flood of bitter tears to his memory.

He always regarded him as a servant of the country and the people throughout his life, and took such a lifestyle as his most pleasure and pride.

As a Korean poet wrote in his poem that nobody knew when his day began and closed, his whole day was dedicated only for his country and people.

Greeting the dawning morning of the next day when he started his work at the Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea, **Kim Jong Il** said that, even though many people knew the fresh air at dawn was good for health, there would be few people who breathed fresh air as we did now, and that it was always the revolutionaries who breathed it earlier than others. From that day on, he would, early in the morning, start his long journey of field guidance to visit military posts, factories and farms.

It was at the dawn of the New Year’s Day in Juche 84(1995) that he sent his handwritten note to the Korean army and people, calling on them to work energetically for the country and the people as befits the soldiers and devoted followers of President **Kim Il Sung** after his death. It was also at a daybreak that he visited the Panmunjom mission to meet the soldiers there and braced up himself to defend his country and people at any cost.

Nor is this all. It was early in the morning in May Juche 87(1998) that he mapped out a plan of land rezoning on his way to the front, which later brought about a history of great changes in the DPRK.

On his day time, too, he would call on his soldiers and people. He drove

hundreds of kilometres of long distance to visit several KPA units in a day, instilling a consciousness and pride as independent guards into the minds of soldiers there. On his visits to industrial establishments and farms, he kindled the flame of a fresh upsurge and leap forward.

His daily routine continued late into the night. His whole life rolled on this way.

Noting that if he slows his trip even for a moment, it may delay the progress of the country as that, he went on his field guidance, from the front to factories and rural areas and from the western area to the eastern area. No one can count the number of such stories.

One day a few years ago **Kim Jong Il** said to the officials who worried about his health: I am going to leave for my field guidance tomorrow, too, in order to build at the earliest possible date a paradise where merry laughter comes from every house of the country and faces of all people beam with joy. It is my pleasure to cover a thorny path for the good of my country and people. I will dash forward with a fluttering flag towards the future when our people live happily with nothing to envy in the world.

It was one day in Juche 98(2009) when miraculous achievements were being made in the DPRK.

Kim Jong Il said: Nowadays I dream of only a good dream, in which people live well off as the President wished. Good omen of prosperity continues to occur. My mind is always in Juche 101(2012). Everyday my heart is burning with a moment when I will proudly report to the President that I led our people to enter the gates of a thriving country.

For this reason, the Korean army and people asked on many occasions for conferring the highest order to **Kim Jong Il** who safeguarded socialism of Korea by leading the “Arduous March” and forced march to victory and was laying solid foundations for the building of a thriving nation.

But he always did not permit their petition.

When their country became a nuclear state, they, determined not to step back this time, made an earnest request once again to confer the title of Hero on him.

Mountains of letters reflecting their desire were heaped up in the Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly.

A speaker who took the floor at a conference held in Pyongyang in mid-October of Juche 95(2006) had this to say:

“General **Kim Jong Il** highly appreciated all those who took part in the current nuclear test as heroes but, in fact, the title of a hero should be awarded first to President **Kim Il Sung** and General **Kim Jong Il** Before saying that our nuclear test was successfully conducted completely with our own technology and wisdom, we should be right to say that it is the General's success resulting from his brilliant wisdom, unparalleled courage and grit and painstaking efforts. I'd like to take this opportunity to solemnly propose, on behalf of all the participants in this conference, a formal request for awarding the highest order to General **Kim Jong Il** who developed our country into a nuclear state no enemy would dare challenge.”

But not only the speaker but other Korean people could not imagine what **Kim Jong Il** had already said. He said: The title of a hero should be awarded to the scientists and technicians who have contributed to the successful nuclear test. If a leader, no matter how brilliant he may be, has no heroic followers boundlessly faithful to his idea and leadership, he is not able to lead the revolution and construction successfully. I am very satisfied with the fact that I have trained hundreds of such heroic soldiers to be remembered by the times and the people, and herein lie his pride and worth of living.

On one occasion **Kim Jong Il** said: I am grateful to my service personnel and people for their concern about me. I think my devotion for them is trifling. Up to now I've never thought of such a thing as trouble. When I am on the forced march for the sake of my soldiers and excellent people, I feel most comfortable and better than leading a luxurious life. ...

Ever-increasing Devotion

There has something special in **Kim Jong Il**'s devotion to his country and people. In other words, his devotion to his country and people grew more intense with the passage of time.

The extent of his devotion to his country and people steadily increased for nearly half a century after he began to work at the Central Committee of the WPK.

In the 1970s, he raised a revolution in literature and the arts and conducted energetic ideological and theoretical activities and gave relevant guidance for the purpose of translating into practice his grand plan to model the whole society on the Juche Idea.

In the 1980s he opened up a new phase of creation and prosperity in the DPRK by bettering the capital city of Pyongyang as the heart of the country as intended by President **Kim Il Sung** and energetically led nationwide struggle to implement the national economic plan.

Over the two decades the appearance of the country changed for the better and the people's living improved.

Kim Jong Il's high-intensive forced march of inspection in the last period of his lifetime is well-known to the world. It was the continuation of his long march of noble devotion started in the 1960s.

For ten days alone from March 15, Juche 64(1975), he inspected tens of units in three provinces. On the morning of March 15, he inspected the construction site of the Wangjaesan Grand Monument and several other units in Onsong County on the northern tip of Korea, and in the afternoon, he gave on-site guidance to the then integrated farm of Sonbong County. On March 17, he inspected a power plant and a machine factory and convened a consultative meeting of North Hamgyong Provincial officials to instruct what they should do in future. Then he went to South Hamgyong Province to direct affairs of Hamhung City and Hungnam Port for two

days. And he went down to Kangwon Province to acquaint himself with its real situation and give necessary instructions, and visited the construction site of a crucial structure in the province to solve the problem arising in the project.

He energetically continued his tour of on-site guidance in the 1990s, the worst period to the country, and in the new century.

In the face of a serious situation in which President **Kim Il Sung** had passed away, the US became more brazen in its moves to stifle the DPRK and severe natural disasters occurred, **Kim Jong Il** embarked on a tour of inspection intended to strengthen the KPA, holding the banner of Songun higher.

He inspected to KPA units on 275 occasions in total from July Juche 83(1994) to the close of Juche 89(2000), traveling more and more miles every year.

In the course of this he inspected lost of civil entities as well.

His tour of on-site guidance done in Jagang Province on January 16 and 17, Juche 87(1998), was really a forced march. Early in the first morning, when **Kim Jong Il** arrived in the province, a senior official there expressed his concern about his health. **Kim Jong Il** then said: A revolutionary should work day and night regardless of the weather. My journey this time is a forced march, and I've braced myself up for it. So don't worry.

And he proposed to visit of over 20 units without exception, and that for two days.

The senior official said that it would be impossible because of its rugged terrain and bad roads. **Kim Jong Il** soothed the official, saying, "Never mind! Now is the time for a forced march. Only when I go ahead, will the people follow us and can we achieve the ultimate victory."

On the way to a unit, the senior official revealed his intention to slow down since the road was slippery. **Kim Jong Il** told him not to worry and said, "If we slack our pace a little, it will delay the forced march of our people and the reunification of our country and the Korean revolution."

Kim Jong Il was such a man that inspected all of the 20-odd units for 2 days as he had planned.

On February 3, Juche 92(2003), after reading a poem a Korean poet wrote on Juche 91(2002), **Kim Jong Il** said with deep emotion, “As written in the poem, last year really can be said to be a year of guerrilla in which I led the Songun revolution in a guerrilla way. This year is also to be a year of guerrilla, a year of a bold offensive, like the previous year.”

The tour of his on-site guidance became most intensive after the publication of the plan to build a prosperous and powerful nation in the DPRK.

In July and August Juche 97(2008), he visited as many as tens of units. Such units reported through mass media in August numbered 20.

The official once entreated him to take a rest even for a moment and he said that he would take a rest when all the people began to enjoy happiness. He, however, continued his tour of inspection in Juche 98(2009), Juche 99(2010) and Juche 100(2011) when there were brought about lots of changes for the happiness of the people.

In Juche 98(2009) alone he inspected as many as 200 units. As to the fact, the foreign media reported to the effect that “the movements of **Kim Jong Il** this year has broken the previous record.”

In Juche 100(2011), the last year of his life, he inspected two hundred and several ten units.

How could his devotion to his country and people become more intensive with the passage of time? It was because of his burning desire to provide the Korean people with greater happiness.

That’s why he continued his tour of inspection all his life for the happiness of the people without resting content with what he had done for the sake of people.

Kim Jong Il's History Will Go by Forever

The Korean people and world progressive people praised **Kim Jong Il** as a peerless patriot, leader of the era and veteran statesman of high repute and the greatest of the great.

After losing such a great sun that had invigorated them, made them well off and brightened their life, the Korean people spent the following days in tears and blood, and their wail of grief rending the air.

In December of bitter tears when even mountains and streams, plants and trees were all in grief, the Korean people, who had entreated him not to walk a snow-covered road, had to bid their last farewell to **Kim Jong Il** just in the snow.

The Korean people tried to sweep snow the road for the funeral ceremony in tears and blood at the thought that they had to bid their last farewell to the national leader, who, born in Paektu Secret Camp covered with snow during the anti-Japanese war, had devoted his all to the people, just in the snow and crowded round the hearse, crying they couldn't let him go like that.

The Korean people had not yet recovered from their grief at the loss of President **Kim Il Sung**, the founder of socialist Korea and the fatherly leader of the nation. Then they lost **Kim Jong Il** too suddenly and unexpectedly. There's no telling how much the Korean people were shocked at the loss.

It was a great loss to the Korean people. And all the fellow countrymen shed bitter tears and all the rest of the world expressed their sincere condolences over the demise of **Kim Jong Il**.

Even though he passed away, he is immortal along with his great ideas that illumine the road to be followed by the era, and with the exploits he had performed

for his country and nation, and for the humankind.

His thoughts and ideas, the fruits of his speculation and philosophical wisdom, clarify principles, lines, and strategies whereby the Korean people can advance dynamically along the road they have chosen without losing their sense of orientation, and the most scientific and down-to-earth way for them to enjoy eternal happiness.

The Korean people keenly realized the validity and vitality of his thoughts and ideas through their long arduous revolutionary practice.

How can it be said that the history of **Kim Jong Il** was over as long as the Korean people keep acting according to his ideas and intentions?

The Korean people still miss **Kim Jong Il** as they did just after he passed away and they repeatedly make up their mind to live like he had done.

The DPRK today is led by **Kim Jong Un**, the successor to the cause of Juche.

All the Korean people are now confident of their bright future, saying that **Kim Jong Un** reminds them of President **Kim Il Sung** making a speech marking his triumphal return to the homeland after winning the anti-Japanese war, or of **Kim Jong Il** proclaiming the programme of modeling the whole society on the Juche Idea.

Accompanying **Kim Jong Il** on the long journey of Songun that produced lots of anecdotes, **Kim Jong Un** fully displayed his noble loyalty as the successor to the revolutionary cause and his qualification and personality as a general-type statesman with pen and sword, and has performed striking exploits in building up the revolutionary armed forces and in promoting the building of a prosperous socialist nation.

After the demise of **Kim Jong Il**, **Kim Jong Un** had the deceased laid in state and has taken all necessary measures to have his beaming image engraved forever in the memory of the people.

Kim Jong Il's idea of "the people are my god" is carried on by **Kim Jong Un**.

In the mourning period of December Juche 100(2011) when the whole country was in tears and blood, he instructed that all functions during the funeral should be

organized with emphasis placed on defending the interests of the people and thoroughly meeting their convenience, and that Party organizations should bear it in mind that General **Kim Jong Il** would be heartbroken to know that the people were shivering in cold winter nights and should provide the people with convenience preferentially and unconditionally.

And he didn't lose the time to take a measure to supply the people with what **Kim Jong Il** had planned to including different kinds of fishes.

This reminded the people of **Kim Jong Il** arranging for the children of nurseries and kindergartens in Pyongyang to be supplied with all the grapes President **Kim Il Sung** had grown in his garden, after the demise of the President 17 years ago.

Today **Kim Jong Un** continues his tour of on-site guidance for the happiness of the people on the field car like **Kim Jong Il** rode all his life.

Kim Jong Un has been on the continuous tour of Songun leadership since he inspected the Seoul Ryu Kyong Su 105 Guards Tank Division of the KPA. This is a clear expression of his unshakable will to carry on and accomplish the Songun revolution associated with the whole life of **Kim Jong Il** without fail.

Since **Kim Jong Un** leads the Korean people, **Kim Jong Il** will be alive forever in the memory of the people along with the history of Songun Korea, and his history will go on invariably.


Printed in the Democratic People's

Republic of Korean

No.2835046

E-mail: flph@star-co.net.kp

[http: //www.naenara.com.kp](http://www.naenara.com.kp)



Pyongyang, Korea
Juche 101 (2012)

ISBN 978-9946-0-0798-4



9 789946 007984 >